HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE, 2011 STATE OF HAWAII

H.C.R. NO. 64

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A SUSTAINABLE PLAN TO REPAIR ALL PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS IN NEED OF MAINTENANCE.

1 WHEREAS, the current fiscal climate has resulted in high unemployment rates, with many families losing income sources; 2 3 and 4 WHEREAS, without viable sources of income, these families 5 have been unable to pay for housing costs, dramatically 6 increasing the homeless population and the need for reasonably-7 priced public housing; and 8 9 10 WHEREAS, even without the additional strain on the public housing system caused by the economy, there is a significant 11 12 wait list for available public housing units; and 13 WHEREAS, the availability of clean, safe, and decent 14 housing can play a vital role in an individual's emergence from 15 poverty; and 16 17 WHEREAS, according to the January 2010 "State Occupancy 18 Report, " only 24 of 364 vacant units were "rent ready" and 19 available for immediate occupancy; and 20 21 22 WHEREAS, including those units that are currently occupied, much of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's (HPHA) inventory 23 of affordable housing projects is nearly 60 years old and in a 24 25 state of disrepair and deterioration; and 26 WHEREAS, the State's limited fiscal resources have been 27 compounding the problem of deteriorating public housing, as 28 cost-cutting efforts have resulted in both the acquisition of 29 minimal quality infrastructure and an inability to maintain that 30 infrastructure on an ongoing basis; and 31



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WHEREAS, the most recent example of this is the deleterious 1 2 state of the hot water heating system at the Mayor Wright public 3 housing complex; and 4

5 WHEREAS, HPHA's current five-year plan, approved by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, 6 7 includes provisions to improve tenant rent collection to allow 8 for more repair and renovation of existing public housing units; 9 and

11 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that the HPHA Board, in its efforts to provide lower income families with decent, safe, 12 13 and sanitary housing, has been actively exploring ways to 14 accomplish the renovation and repair of the State's public 15 housing inventory; now, therefore,

17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 18 19 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature urges the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to develop and implement a 20 sustainable plan to repair all public housing units in need of 21 22 maintenance; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that HPHA is urged to consider how necessary renovations and maintenance may be undertaken at 25 reduced or no cost through collaboration with the Department of 26 27 Public Safety, the construction trades, and other relevant 28 entities; and

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that HPHA is requested to report to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of 31 32 the Regular Session of 2012 on the development and implementation of the sustainable plan to repair all public 33 34 housing units in need of maintenance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 36 37 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority Board of 38 Directors, and the Director of Public Safety. 39

OFFERED BY:

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