HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT SMOKING IN ALL PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS AND STATE LOW-INCOME HOUSING PROJECTS.

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Public Housing Authority has the authority to adopt rules concerning public housing projects and state low-income housing projects; and

WHEREAS, residents of public housing and state low-income housing projects should have a healthy living environment; and

WHEREAS, smoke from cigarettes and other tobacco products can cause serious health problems for persons who smoke and also for persons exposed to secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS, approximately 443,000 persons die each year from health problems related to smoking or secondhand smoke, and 8,600,000 persons live with serious illnesses caused by smoking; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has encouraged public housing authorities to implement non-smoking policies in public housing units; and

WHEREAS, public housing authorities and housing commissions in states such as Alaska, California, Colorado, Main, Michigan, New York, and Texas have implemented non-smoking policies in their public housing projects; and

WHEREAS, prohibiting smoking in the public housing and state low-income housing projects under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority would protect the health and welfare of the residents of those projects; now, therefore,

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 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority is encouraged to prohibit smoking in all public housing and state low-income housing projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services and Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 3 2012