HOUSE 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,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, 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 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services and Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 3 2012