HB 1119, HD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY.

Report Title: Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Mayor Wright Homes (\$)

Appropriates unspecified amounts of funds to the HPHA to leverage funds for the redevelopment of the Mayor Wright homes. Requires dollar-for-dollar matching with private or federal funds before appropriations may be expended. Effective July 1, 2030. (HB1119 HD1)

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): CABANILLA

NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY 1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Statement of Hakim Ouansafi Hawaii Public Housing Authority Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

March 14, 2013 1:20 P.M. Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of

House Bill 1119, House Draft 1 Relating to the Public Housing Authority

Honorable Chair Chun Oakland and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding House Bill (H.B.) 1119, House Draft (HD) 1, relating to the public housing authority.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) <u>supports</u> the enactment of this measure, which would appropriate an unspecified sum for each fiscal year of fiscal biennium 2013-2015 to leverage funds for the redevelopment of Mayor Wright Homes, provided that its passage does not adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Biennium Budget.

Mayor Wright Homes is the first post-World War II public housing project by the Hawaii Housing Authority, and was dedicated in 1953 and later named after the late Mayor of Honolulu, George F. Wright, in 1958. It is currently a 364-unit development that throughout the years, has continuously suffered from maintenance issues, property damage, sewage problems, and other physical upkeep problems. These much needed funds would assist the HPHA to redevelop Mayor Wright Homes, and ultimately provide much needed housing for our low income residents.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Human Services with the agency's position regarding H.B. 1119 HD1. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.