HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE REGARDING ITS POLICY TO DEVELOP RENTAL PROPERTIES FOR OCCUPANCY BY ITS BENEFICIARIES AND ENSURE THAT BENEFICIARIES MAINTAIN THEIR PLACEMENT ON THE WAITLIST FOR HOMESTEAD LEASES WHILE RESIDING IN A DEPARTMENT RENTAL.

WHEREAS, sixty-eight percent of low-income Native Hawaiians, those making less than eighty percent of area median income, experience housing problems, and seventy-five percent of very low-income Native Hawaiians, those making less than fifty percent of area median income, experience housing problems; and

WHEREAS, as of September 11, 2012, there were 26,550 individual applicants on the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' waitlist for homestead leases; and

WHEREAS, many beneficiaries of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands must first establish credit before they are able to qualify for a mortgage on a homestead lease; and

WHEREAS, according to Auditor's Report No. 13-02, April 2013, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has a significant amount of defaulted mortgage loans with a delinquency rate of almost thirty-two percent at the end of fiscal year 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has the potential for higher returns from rental properties than it does from heavily subsidized mortgages; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is urged to submit a report to the Legislature regarding its policy to develop rental properties for occupancy by its beneficiaries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is urged to ensure that its beneficiaries will not lose their place on the homestead waitlist while residing in a Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' rental; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

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OFFERED BY:

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