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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE REVISION OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS SO THAT HOUSING  
SUBSIDIES THROUGH THE SECTION 8 RENTAL ASSISTANCE AND  
HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM PAID DIRECTLY TO AN APPLICANT OF THE  
SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ARE EXCLUDED FROM  
THE CALCULATION OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME TO DETERMINE  
ELIGIBILITY FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture offers  
2 the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to provide  
3 nutrition assistance to low-income individuals and families; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the income of applicants to the Supplemental  
6 Nutrition Assistance Program may not exceed a certain threshold  
7 in order to qualify for the program; and  
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9 WHEREAS, title 7 Code of Federal Regulations section 273.9  
10 provides in part that housing subsidies from the United States  
11 Department of Housing and Urban Development are excluded from  
12 the applicant's income calculation for the Supplemental  
13 Nutrition Assistance Program if the housing subsidies are paid  
14 directly to the landlord or mortgagee on behalf of the  
15 recipient; and  
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17 WHEREAS, in some cases the office handling the distribution  
18 of benefits from the United States Department of Housing and  
19 Urban Development's Section 8 program is unable to make payments  
20 to multiple vendors and instead relies on the program recipient  
21 to administer payments to vendors; and  
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23 WHEREAS, there are other instances when Section 8 program  
24 payments must be made directly to recipients, who then  
25 distribute their own mortgage payments, yet these recipients  
26 receive the same Section 8 benefits as recipients whose mortgage  
27 payments are made directly from the administering office; and  
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1 WHEREAS, it is unconscionable for a recipient of the  
 2 Section 8 Rental Assistance or Home Ownership Program to be  
 3 disqualified from participating in the Supplemental Nutrition  
 4 Assistance Program simply because the office distributing  
 5 Section 8 benefits is unable to make payments directly to the  
 6 landlord, mortgagee, or other vendors; now, therefore,  
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 9 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
 10 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the President of  
 11 the United States, the United States Department of Agriculture,  
 12 and the United States Department of Housing and Urban  
 13 Development are requested to amend federal regulations so that  
 14 housing subsidies through the Section 8 Rental Assistance and  
 15 Homeownership Program paid directly to an applicant of the  
 16 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program are excluded from the  
 17 calculation of household income to determine eligibility for the  
 18 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; and  
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
 22 United States; the United States Secretary of Agriculture;  
 23 United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;  
 24 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; President  
 25 Pro Tempore of the United States Senate; chairpersons of the  
 26 United States Senate Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation,  
 27 and Community Development, and the Subcommittee on Nutrition,  
 28 Specialty Crops, and Agricultural Research; chairpersons of the  
 29 United States House of Representatives Subcommittee on Housing  
 30 and Insurance, and the Subcommittee on Nutrition; congressional  
 31 delegation from Hawaii; and Governor of the State of Hawaii.  
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OFFERED BY:

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*Mar 07 2016*