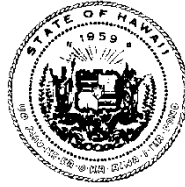


DAVID Y. IGE
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Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

February 2, 2015 8:30 A.M.
Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of

House Bill 936

Relating to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Honorable Chair Hashem and Members of the House Committee on Housing, thank you for this opportunity to provide comments regarding House Bill (H.B.) 936, relating to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) strongly supports this measure to expand the HPHA's authority to dispose of property abandoned, seized, or remaining at Federal, elder or elderly, or state low-income housing projects, including property remaining upon eviction.

This measure allows the HPHA to better manage the upkeep and turnover of its units by eliminating abandoned and unwanted property in an expeditious manner. Currently the HPHA is limited to removing abandoned or seized personal property at state low-income housing projects and may only do so in federal low-income public housing after an eviction. This measure expands the HPHA's authority to remove personal property abandoned, seized or remaining at state and federal, elder and elderly, and low-income housing projects.

For purposes of clarity, the HPHA suggests the following technical amendments to H.B. 936:

1. Any reference to state, federal or elderly housing should be termed "public housing project or older or elderly housing, as defined in section 356D-1, or state low-income housing project, as defined in section 356D-51."

2. The repeal of Hawaii Revised Section 356D-58, "Lien attaches to personalty in possession," which is invalidated by provisions of H.B. 936.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the House Committee on Housing with the agency's position regarding H.B. 936. We respectfully request the Committee to pass H.B. 936, with amendments, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.