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Statement of **Hakim Ouansafi** Hawaii Public Housing Authority Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 29, 2016 9:15 A.M. Room 211, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of SB 2565 RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY.

Honorable Chair Tokuda and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding Senate Bill (SB) 2565, relating to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) <u>supports</u> this measure to repeal the State Housing Sales Program of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA). The HPHA agrees with the Legislature that State public housing units should not be sold to its tenants but should remain under the HPHA's ownership for rental to low-income tenants, which is a major immediate public need in Hawaii today. For at least the last ten years, the HPHA has not utilized the State Sales Housing Program, and has no plans to use it in the future. It is understood that this measure will not affect any private-public partnerships.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Ways and Means with the HPHA's comments regarding SB 2565. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.