



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

February 11, 2016

TO: The Honorable Senator Breene Harimoto, Chair
Senate Committee on Housing

FROM: Scott Morishige, MSW, Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness

SUBJECT: **SB 2566 – RELATING TO HOUSING**

Hearing: Thursday, February 11, 2016, 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225, State Capitol

POSITION: The Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness provides written comments on this measure, and appreciates its intent, as it seeks to increase the supply of affordable rental housing statewide. The Coordinator defers to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) as to specific details regarding the transfer of funds proposed in this bill.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to transfer excess moneys from the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund (DURF) and the Rental Assistance Revolving Fund (RARF) to the Rental Housing Revolving Fund (RHRF).

This measure appears to be in alignment with Goal 2, Objective 4, Strategy 2 of the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness Strategic Plan to End Homelessness, which is to "expand the supply of affordable rental housing where they are most needed through federal, state, local and private efforts and partnerships."

However, the Coordinator notes that the transfer of funds from the DURF is contrary to the Governor's Executive Budget, which includes \$25 million in General Obligation bonds for infusion into the DURF for on-site and off-site infrastructure improvements. The infusion of funds into the DURF, along with a proposed \$75 million in

General Obligation bond funds for infusion into the RHRF, is expected to facilitate the development of at least 1,400 affordable homes.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.