
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO COMMIT TO
PROVIDING HOUSING FIRST FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES.

1 WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Hawaiian
2 Homes Commission Act in 1921, which was authored by Prince Kuhio
3 Kalanianaʻole, and which dedicated 203,000 acres of land in
4 Hawaii to benefit Native Hawaiians; and
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6 WHEREAS, the purpose of the Act was and is to restore the
7 cultural link between Native Hawaiians and the land and to
8 provide Native Hawaiians the stability, financial equity, and
9 economic self-sufficiency that comes from land and home
10 ownership; and
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12 WHEREAS, since the Act was signed into law, only about
13 9,700 homesteads have been resettled and nearly 27,000
14 beneficiaries remain on the waitlist; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Federal and State governments have contributed
17 to the underdevelopment of this important program by not acting
18 in the best interests of Native Hawaiians and providing
19 insufficient funding, inadequate planning, and mismanagement;
20 and
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22 WHEREAS, for the future of Native Hawaiians and their
23 wellbeing, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands must fulfill
24 its purpose by being a housing first department, and focus its
25 funding, personnel, and other resources on providing housing for
26 Native Hawaiian beneficiaries; now, therefore,
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2018, that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is urged to
31 commit to pursuing an agenda of "housing first", using all its
32 assets, moneys, and personnel to pursue an aggressive program of



1 homebuilding in all forms, including condos, multi-family, and
2 single-family homes as appropriate; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Hawaiian Home
5 Lands is urged to review its grant drawdown procedures and
6 priorities to ensure that it responsibly and effectively spends
7 Federal grant money toward its mission of providing housing for
8 Native Hawaiian beneficiaries; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Office of
12 Native Hawaiian Relations of the United States Department of the
13 Interior, Governor, the Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes
14 Commission, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

