

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

# Testimony of the Office of the Governor State of Hawai'i

Before the
House Committee on Finance
February 27, 2018, 12:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308

In consideration of House Bill No. 2330, H.D.1 RELATING TO HOUSING

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and committee members:

The Office of the Governor **strongly supports** House Bill 2330, H.D.1. Housing is a top priority for the Ige administration. Governor Ige convened a housing task force comprised of representatives from the Land Use Research Foundation, the Building Industry Association, the development community, housing advocacy organizations, and the state legislature to work collaboratively on solutions to the housing shortage.

This measure supports the goals of the task force by improving the economics of building and operating rental housing in Hawai'i. Section 201H of the Hawaii Revised Statutes was amended under Act 54 last year to expand the types of rental housing projects that could be exempted from general excise tax (GET). This bill lifts the cap on GET exemptions to spur production, extends the sunset date to June 30, 2026 to allow for an entire project cycle, and makes clarifications related to eligible projects and tenant selection.

We urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Denise Iseri-Matsubara Office of the Governor (808) 586-0805

DAMIEN A. ELEFANTE DEPUTY DIRECTOR



## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 221 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

http://tax.hawaii.gov/ Phone: (808) 587-1540 / Fax: (808) 587-1560 Email: Tax.Directors.Office@hawaii.gov

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair

and Members of the House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Time: 12:00 P.M.

Place: Conference Room 308, State Capitol

From: Linda Chu Takayama, Director

Department of Taxation

Re: H.B. 2330, H.D. 1, Relating to Housing

The Department of Taxation (Department) strongly supports H.B. 2330, H.D. 1, an Administration measure, defers to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) on the merits of this bill, and provides the following comments for your consideration.

H.B. 2330, H.D. 1, is intended to increase low income housing by extending the exemption from the general excise and use taxes costs for certain rental housing projects certified pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) section 201H-36(a)(5) to June 30, 2026, expanding the exemption to cover rents, and repealing the per year cap of \$7 million for the exemption. The measure also provides that project owners cannot refuse to rent solely because the applicant is utilizing vouchers or certificates of eligibility under Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937. The measure has a defective effective date of July 1, 2050, but applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017.

Under HRS section 201H-36, HHFDC certifies that a housing project is entitled to the tax exemption. Only after receiving such certification can a taxpayer claim the tax exemption. As the regulatory agreements and the eligibility determinations remain with HHFDC, this measure will not have a substantial administrative impact on the Department.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

LUIS P. SALAVERIA DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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# Statement of LUIS P. SALAVERIA

Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism before the

## **HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 12:00 P.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of HB 2330, HD 1 RELATING TO HOUSING.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports** HB2330, HD1, an Administration bill.

HB2330, HD1 would expand the general excise tax exemption for projects developed under a contract described in section 201H-2(i)(2), HRS, established by Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017. DBEDT supports this effort to provide a more robust incentive for the development of affordable rentals in the near term.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer support on HB2330, HD1.



## STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of
Craig K. Hirai
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

February 27, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. State Capitol, Room 308

In consideration of H.B. 2330, H.D. 1 RELATING TO HOUSING.

The HHFDC <u>strongly supports</u> H.B. 2330, H.D. 1, an Administration bill. H.B. 2330, H.D. 1 would expand the general excise tax exemption for rental projects developed by the private sector under a contract described in section 201H-2(i)(2), HRS, to include substantial rehabilitation projects and affordable rents, remove the per annum cap on such exemptions, extend the sunset date of Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2017, from June 30, 2022, to June 30, 2026, and require that certified projects not refuse qualified residents solely because they hold Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers.

The proposed exemption of affordable rents would apply only to rental housing projects certified or approved by HHFDC before June 30, 2026, to provide an incentive to developers to act quickly to begin development and rehabilitation of more affordable rental projects to meet the high demand for affordable rentals statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE



HAKIM OUANSAFI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

### STATE OF HAWAII

HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY 1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET POST OFFICE BOX 17907 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

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

Before the

### **HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 12:00 PM - Room 308, Hawaii State Capitol

> In consideration of HB 2330, HD1 RELATING TO HOUSING

Honorable Chair Luke and Members of the House Committee on Finance, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning House Bill (HB) 2330, HD1, relating to housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) <u>strongly supports</u> HB 2330, HD1. This Administration Bill expands and extends to June 30, 2026, the certification for exemption from general excise tax and use tax costs for certain rental housing projects pursuant to section 201H-36(a)(5), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to include affordable rents. Requires said project owners to accept Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers as a condition of certification.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) assists low-income families through the Housing Choice Voucher Program, also known as "Section 8". The Section 8 program is one of the federal government's major programs for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market, including single-family homes, townhouses and apartments.

Because of the overwhelming need in our community to assist our low-income families, the passage of this measure will greatly assist our Section 8 participants in being considered as tenants in these future projects. Due to the unfortunate stigma that Section 8 participants damage rental units, our Section 8 participants have a difficult time in finding landlords who will rent to them. The Section 8 program is an important part of the State's efforts in addressing the affordable housing needs of our low-income families that would otherwise be homeless, and the HPHA is willing to work and assist all future landlords that participate in these projects.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the House Committee on Finance with the HPHA's testimony regarding HB 2330, HD1. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.



# HB2330 HD1 RELATING TO HOUSING

House Committee on Finance

February 27, 2018

12:00 p.m.

Room 308

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following **COMMENTS** on HB2330 HD1, which proposes to extend and provide additional incentives under Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 201H, to developers who provide certified new or "substantially rehabilitated" housing for certain income levels, and who do not refuse to lease any such units to persons with section 8 housing vouchers..

OHA appreciates efforts to produce affordable rental housing options that will assist Native Hawaiians and many of Hawaii's residents who are struggling to afford their rent. Native Hawaiians, whose homeownership rate is significantly lower than the state average, must rely substantially on the rental housing market.<sup>1</sup> Native Hawaiian renters also have a particular need for affordable rental units, as more than half of Native Hawaiian renters, many of whom already live in overcrowded situations<sup>2</sup> to reduce costs, live in homes they are struggling to afford.<sup>3</sup> Native Hawaiians may therefore be disproportionately impacted by the lack of affordable rental housing opportunities in the state. Accordingly, OHA supports the intended purpose of this measure, to encourage the generation of affordable rental housing opportunities, and discourage discrimination against low-income renters, through the extension and expansion of tax incentives for projects qualifying under HRS § 201H-36.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Out of 71,006 Native Hawaiian households, 37,562 households are owner-occupied. This figure is commonly used by most governmental agencies to represent the homeownership rate. Therefore, the homeownership rate for Native Hawaiians is 52.9% compared to the statewide average of 56.7% of households. See Office of Hawaiian Affairs, OHA Data Book Housing Tenure by Race-Ethnicity in Hawai'i 2014, available at <a href="http://www.ohadatabook.com/T02-131-15u.pdf">http://www.ohadatabook.com/T02-131-15u.pdf</a>. This figure includes 8,329 DHHL residential lease "owner-occupied" property units. DHHL Annual Report 2014, P. 48, available at <a href="http://dhhl.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/DHHL-Annual-Report-2014-Web.pdf">http://dhhl.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/DHHL-Annual-Report-2014-Web.pdf</a>. For non-DHHL properties, the Native Hawaiian homeownership rate is therefore 41.2%, 15.5 percentage points below the statewide rate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The average Native Hawaiian household size was 3.63, notably larger than the 2.62 average for non-Native Hawaiian households. *See* SMS, HAWAI'I HOUSING PLANNING STUDY, at 70 (2016), *available at* <a href="https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hhfdc/files/2017/03/State\_HHPS2016\_Report\_031317\_final.pdf">https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hhfdc/files/2017/03/State\_HHPS2016\_Report\_031317\_final.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>24.8% of Native Hawaiian households, compared to 9.6% of state households include more than two generations or unrelated individuals. 14.1% of Native Hawaiian households, compared to 4.2% of state households have a hidden homeless family member. *See id*, at 70.

As amended, HB2330 HD1 would require that projects qualifying under HRS section 201H-36 set aside all units for households at or below 140% of the Area Median Income (AMI), and at least twenty percent of such units be offered to households at or below 80% AMI. This would give equate to a weighted average for all units in a project, of 128% AMI.<sup>4</sup> Notably, half of the projected residential demand for 65,000 more housing units by 2025, is for units at or below 80% AMI.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, to better serve the affordable housing needs of Native Hawaiians and Hawai'i residents generally, we respectfully request that the Committee consider amending page 3, lines 3 through 15 of HB2330 HD1 to read:

"(B) All all available units are for households with incomes at or below one hundred forty per cent of the area median family income as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, of which at least twenty per cent of the available units are for households with incomes at or below eighty per cent of the area median family income as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development [-]; provided that the total weighted average of all units provided in an approved and certified project shall be no more than one hundred percent of the area median family income; provided further, that an owner shall not refuse to lease a unit in the project to a qualified applicant solely because the applicant holds a voucher or certificate of eligibility under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937."

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments on this matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This weighted average is calculated by multiplying the sum of the number of units provided at 140% AMI by 140, adding the number of units provided at 80 AMI multiplied by 80, and dividing by the total units in the project. For example: If the total units in a project is 100 units, with 80 of these units at 140% AMI and 20 of these units at 80% AMI, the weighted average would equal  $((80 \times 140 = 11,200) + (20 \times 80 = 1,600))/100 = 128\%$  AMI.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Hawai'i Housing Planning Study, 2016 p. 35; Table 27b.

## LEGISLATIVE TAX BILL SERVICE

# TAX FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

126 Queen Street, Suite 304

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Tel. 536-4587

SUBJECT: GENERAL EXCISE, Expand and Extend Affordable Rental Housing Exemption

BILL NUMBER: HB 2330, HD-1

INTRODUCED BY: SB by Kouchi by request; HB by Saiki by request

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Expands and extends to June 30, 2026, the affordable housing exemption from general excise tax and use tax costs for certain rental housing projects pursuant to section 201H-36(a)(5), Hawaii Revised Statutes. Requires affordable rental project owners to accept Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers as a condition of certification.

SYNOPSIS: Amends section 201H-36(a)(5), HRS, to apply to projects approved or certified from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2026.

Requires projects in this category to be newly constructed or substantially rehabilitated.

Repeals the requirement that the allowable GET and Use Tax exemptions apply to contracting only and do not exceed \$7 million in the aggregate.

Adds a proviso that an owner of a project in this category cannot refuse to lease a unit in the project to a qualified applicant solely because the applicant holds a Section 8 voucher.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2050.

STAFF COMMENTS: This bill is sponsored by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and is designated BED-15 (18).

Currently, the HHFDC may certify affordable rental housing projects under HRS 201H-36 as qualifying for the exemption under HRS 237-29.

One of the existing categories of affordable housing projects that can be certified is an affordable rental housing project where at least 50% of the available units are for households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median family income, of which at least 20% of the available units are for households with incomes at or below 60% of the area median family income.

Act 54, SLH 2017, added another category of affordable rental housing project, where all available units are for households with incomes at or below 140% of the area median family income, of which at least 20% of the available units are for households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median family income. However, the developer would need to use a union contractor whose collective bargaining agreement or project labor agreement was properly submitted to DLIR under Hawaii's Little Davis-Bacon Act. Furthermore, the allowable GET and Use Tax costs apply to contracting only, are not to exceed \$7 million per year for all projects in this category, and this category sunsets on June 30, 2022.

Re: HB 2330, HD-1

Page 2

This bill would expand the second category by deleting the requirement that eligible costs be for contracting only, by deleting the \$7 million per year cap, and by moving the sunset date to June 30, 2026.

If the policy goal is to build more affordable housing, we need to be wary of attaching conditions to the goal that would bog down the process. This bill takes away some of the conditions that were attached in the 2017 legislation, and the challenge now is to make sure that taxpayers can afford the enhanced bill.

Digested 2/25/2018





February 27, 2018

Representative Sylvia J. Luke, Chair Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair House Committee on Finance

Testimony in Support of HB 2330, HD1, Relating to Housing (Extends exemption from general excise tax for development costs of affordable rental housing certified by HHFDC. Removes limits on costs eligible for exemption and authorizes exemption for substantially renovated projects. Prohibits discrimination against tenants based solely on receipt of Section 8 housing assistance.)

Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 12:00 p.m., in Conference Room 308

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its support of HB 2330 H.D. 1.

<u>HB 2330, HD1</u>. This bill proposes to extends exemption from general excise tax for development costs of affordable rental housing certified by HHFDC; to remove limits on costs eligible for exemption; to authorize exemption for substantially renovated projects; and to prohibit discrimination against tenants based solely on receipt of Section 8 housing assistance.

<u>LURF's Position</u>. The purpose of this bill is to expand the general excise tax exemption for projects developed under a contract described in section 201H—2 (i) (2), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to include affordable rents; remove the per annum cap on such exemptions, to extend the sunset date of Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2017, from June 30, 2022, to June 30, 2026; and to require certified projects to accept qualified Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers.

House Committee on Finance February 27, 2018 Page 2

LURF understands that expanding the general excise tax exemption created in Act 54, SLH 2017, to include affordable rents, will spur on developers to start their developments immediately, to take advantage of the exemption before it sunsets.

Adding a requirement that certified project owners cannot refuse to accept Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher applicants solely due to their status as voucher holders will assist low-income households in finding affordable rental housing, and will also help increase Section 8 program utilization statewide.

Based on the above, LURF respectfully urges your favorable consideration of HB 2330, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of this measure.

Please feel free to contact David Arakawa, LURF Executive Director, if there are any questions.

<u>HB-2330-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2018 12:20:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 12:00:00 PM

| Submitted By  | Organization   | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|---------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Melodie Aduja | OCC Legislative<br>Priorities Committee,<br>Democratic Party of<br>Hawai'i | Support               | No                    |

Comments:

1065 Ahua Street Honolulu, HI 96819

Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167

Email: <a href="mailto:info@gcahawaii.org">info@gcahawaii.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.gcahawaii.org">www.gcahawaii.org</a>



Uploaded via Capitol Website

February 27, 2018

TO: HONORABLE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR, HONORABLE TY CULLEN, VICE CHAIR

AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

SUBJECT: H.B. 2330, HD1, RELATING TO HOUSING. Extends exemption from general

excise tax for development costs of affordable rental housing certified by HHFDC. Removes limits on costs eligible for exemption and authorizes exemption for substantially renovated projects. Prohibits discrimination against tenants based solely on receipt of Section 8 housing assistance. (HB2330 HD1)

## **Hearing**

DATE: Tuesday, February 27, 2018

TIME: 12:00 PM

PLACE: Conference Room 308

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of over five hundred general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. The GCA's mission is to represent its members in all matters related to the construction industry, while improving the quality of construction and protecting the public interest.

H.B. 2330, HD1, Relating to Housing will extend the life of Act 54 (2017) passed last year to allow exemptions from certain requirements that use 201H to build affordable units, and now also units that need substantial rehabilitation, while being completely privately financed and subject to certain requirements under Section 104-2(i)(2) and labor conditions for the project. This measure extends Act 54 from 2022 to 2026 to allow developers more time to utilize the 201H exemptions and also deletes the cap on the allowable GE Tax and Use Tax exemptions. This measure also restricts the owner of the units from disallowing the use of Section 8 vouchers to stay in the units. While this law just took effect last year it has not been given the time necessary to show it can incentivize developers to build affordable units.

The availability of affordable housing, whether for rent or for purchase is a vital priority for our state's residents and the Hawaii Housing Finance Development Corporation (HHFDC) needs support in order to ensure the availability of funding options for private partners and developers to be incentivized to build such units. Since 2006, HHFDC has facilitated the development or preservation of 7,750 housing units, which about 83 percent were rentals with incomes at or under 60 percent of area median income and 17 percent were for sale to households earning 80-140 percent AMI. Hawaii needs more of these affordable market units available to meet the demand of our residents. This measure provides a mechanism to deliver such.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

## Testimony of Christopher Delaunay, Government Relations Manager Pacific Resource Partnership

THE HOUSE THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE **REGULAR SESSION OF 2018** 

## **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

> NOTICE OF HEARING Tuesday, February 27, 2018 12:00 p.m. State Capitol Conference Room 308

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee:

Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) supports the Hawaii Rental Housing Coalition (HRHC) and the state and city governments in their continued efforts to find concrete solutions to build more affordable housing for households whose incomes are at or below 140% AMI and thus, supports HB 2330, HD1.

HB 2330, HD1 will improve the GET exemption package for affordable rental housing projects created in Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, by removing the per annum cap on GET exemptions and extending the sunset date for these exemptions from June 30, 2022, to June 30, 2026.

In addition, the GET exemptions under Section 201H-36(a)(5), Hawaii Revised Statutes will also be made available to developers who will create more affordable rental housing units by substantially rehabilitating older buildings, and not only limiting the GET exemption package to "newly constructed" affordable rental housing projects.

Thank you for allowing us to express our support for HB 2330, HD1, and we respectfully request your favorable consideration.





## (Continued From Page 1)

## <u>About PRP</u>

Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a not-for-profit organization that represents the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, the largest construction union in the state, and more than 240 of Hawaii's top contractors. Through this unique partnership, PRP has become an influential voice for responsible construction and an advocate for creating a stronger, more sustainable Hawaii in a way that promotes a vibrant economy, creates jobs and enhances the quality of life for all residents.



## HB-2330-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 12:17:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 12:00:00 PM

| Submitted By   | Organization   | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|----------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Self Advocates | Hawaii Self Advocacy<br>Advisory Council (non-<br>profit organization) | Support               | No                    |

## Comments:

My name Renee Manfredi. I am the President of the Hawaii Self Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC). We have nearly 200 members statewide.

We support HB2330 HD1. We have SAAC members you have been fortunate enough to receive a Section 8 voucher after waiting over five years for one. But then they were at risk for losing it because they could not find a rental unit that would take the voucher.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony SUPPORTING HB2330 HD1

# Hawaiʻi Construction Alliance



P.O. Box 179441 Honolulu, HI 96817 (808) 348-8885

February 27, 2018

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair and members House Committee on Finance 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

## RE: Strong Support for HB2330 HD1, Relating to Housing

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members:

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is comprised of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368; the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Union, Local 630; International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, Local 1; and the Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3. Together, the member unions of the Hawai'i Construction Alliance represent 15,000 working men and women in the basic crafts of Hawai'i's construction industry.

As you know, the Hawai'i Construction Alliance has been extremely concerned about the chronic deficiency of rental apartment housing across the state. Along with our partners in the banking, development, landowning, contracting, architecture, and engineering communities, we formed the "Hawai'i Rental Housing Coalition," with the aim of identifying and carrying out concrete private-sector steps to make a meaningful impact on the economics of building and operating rental housing for families in the 80-140% AMI range.

We are very grateful for the hard work of your committee last session, wherein you passed HB1179, which became law as Act 54 (2017). HB2330 HD1 builds upon these efforts by expanding and extending to June 30, 2026, the certification for exemption from general excise tax and use tax costs for certain rental housing projects pursuant to section 201H-36(a)(5), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to include affordable rents, and by prohibiting discrimination against tenants based solely on receipt of Section 8 housing assistance.

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance remains committed to its leadership role in encouraging the production of rental housing across our state. We ask your committee to continue its diligent work in addressing our state's affordable rental housing crisis by favorably passing out HB2330 HD1.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Mahalo,

Tyler Dos Santos-Tam Executive Director

Hawai'i Construction Alliance execdir@hawaiiconstructionalliance.org