

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

September 15, 2020

GOV. MSG. NO. 1139

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President
and Members of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives Thirtieth State Legislature State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on September 15, 2020, the following bill was signed into law:

HB1929 HD2 SD2

RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING. Act 034 (20)

Sincerely,

Governor, State of Hawai'i

Approved by the Governor SEP 15 2020

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE, 2020 STATE OF HAWAII

ORIGINAL ACT 034

H.B. NO.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a severe
- 2 shortage of affordable rental housing in the county of Maui,
- particularly in the western part of the island of Maui. To help 3
- 4 address this issue, the legislature passed Act 150, Session Laws
- 5 of Hawaii 2018 (Act 150), to appropriate funds in support of the
- Front Street Apartments in Lahaina, Maui. By passing Act 98, 6
- 7 Session Laws of Hawaii 2019 (Act 98), the legislature also
- 8 sought to ensure the continued availability of affordable rental
- 9 housing in Maui county by preserving the affordability of the
- 10 Front Street Apartments in Lahaina, Maui.
- The legislature further finds that since the passage of 11
- both Act 150 and Act 98, the Hawaii housing finance and 12
- development corporation has acquired the leased fee interest in 13
- the Front Street Apartments project as required in sections 2 14
- and 4 of Act 98. 15
- 16 Under Act 150, as amended by Act 98, the Hawaii housing
- finance and development corporation must initiate condemnation 17

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- 1 proceedings unless, by December 31, 2019, it renegotiates the
- 2 ground lease for the Front Street Apartments project or issues a
- 3 new ground lease on terms acceptable to the Hawaii housing
- 4 finance and development corporation. However, a pending lawsuit
- 5 filed in federal court on behalf of the tenants of Front Street
- 6 Apartments project has made it virtually impossible to obtain an
- 7 accurate appraisal of the value of the ground lease. The
- 8 legislature finds that, without an accurate appraisal, neither
- 9 condemnation by the Hawaii housing finance and development
- 10 corporation nor a negotiated ground lease agreement are
- 11 possible. The state constitution requires payment of fair
- 12 market value under the condemnation process. Similarly, a
- 13 renegotiated ground lease also requires an accurate appraisal to
- 14 assess the reasonableness of a lessee's proposal. Thus, an
- 15 extension of the December 31, 2019, deadline is necessary.
- 16 The purpose of this Act is to extend the aforementioned
- 17 deadline and help ensure the continued availability of
- 18 affordable rental housing in Maui county at the Front Street
- 19 Apartments in Lahaina.

- 1 SECTION 2. Act 150, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, as
- 2 amended by Act 98, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, is amended by
- 3 amending section 1 to read as follows:
- 4 "SECTION 1. The Hawaii housing finance and development
- 5 corporation shall institute proceedings for the condemnation of
- 6 the ground lease for the Front Street Apartments affordable
- 7 housing project pursuant to chapter 101, Hawaii Revised
- 8 Statutes, unless the corporation has renegotiated the ground
- 9 lease or issued a new ground lease on terms acceptable to the
- 10 corporation by December 31, [2019.] 2021."
- 11 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval
- 14 and shall apply retroactively to December 30, 2019.

APPROVED this 15 day of SEP, 2020

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

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THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: July 6, 2020 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2020.

MUM. M.
President of the Senate

Clerk of the Senate

HB No. 1929, HD 2, SD 2

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: July 10, 2020 Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020.

BCMm. Am

Scott K. Saiki Speaker House of Representatives

This Li I late

Brian L. Takeshita

Chief Clerk

House of Representatives