JAN 1 7 2019

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

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

1	SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2	adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3	as follows:
4	"CHAPTER
5	AFFORDABLE HOUSING OMBUDSMAN
6	§ -1 Affordable housing ombudsman office;
7	qualifications; duties. (a) There is established the office of
8	the affordable housing ombudsman which shall be headed by the
9	affordable housing ombudsman. The affordable housing ombudsman
10	shall be appointed, without regard to section 26-34, by the
11	governor to serve a term of four years concurrent with the term
12	of the governor.
13	(b) The person appointed as the affordable housing
14	ombudsman shall be experienced in affordable housing issues and
15	development; United States Department of Housing and Urban
16	Development programs and regulations: interpretation of state

# S.B. NO. 10

1	and rederar raws and rures; arbitraction and negotiation; and		
2	investigation.		
3	(c)	The affordable housing ombudsman shall:	
4	(1)	Identify, investigate, and resolve complaints from	
5		tenants or homeowners in publicly-subsidized	
6		affordable or public housing;	
7	(2)	Monitor and comment on the State's production of	
8		affordable housing units; the development and	
9		implementation of federal, state, and local laws;	
10	•	applicable federal regulations; affordable housing	
11		policies; and actions that pertain to affordable	
12	·	housing, and shall recommend changes as necessary;	
13	(3)	Seek administrative, legal, or other remedies to carry	
14		out this chapter; and	
15	(4)	Carry out all other responsibilities as provided by	
16		state or federal law."	
17	SECT	ION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.	
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INTRODUCED BY:

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2

## S.B. NO. 10

### Report Title:

Affordable Housing Ombudsman Office; Publicly-subsidized Affordable and Public Housing

### Description:

Establishes the office of the affordable housing ombudsman to monitor and comment on the State's production of affordable housing units; the development and implementation of laws, regulations, and policies relating to affordable housing; and to investigate and resolve complaints from tenants or homeowners in publicly-subsidized affordable or public housing.

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