

JAN 17 2020

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 Hawaii has the least
2 affordable housing of any state in the nation and is facing a
3 housing crisis due to the lack of affordable housing. The
4 legislature also finds that there are limited housing options
5 for those who are transitioning out of homelessness or back into
6 the workforce.

7 Additionally, there may be residents of the State who do
8 not qualify for federal assistance or federal housing programs.
9 In some cases, federal guidelines prohibit the assistance
10 greatly needed by those who are transitioning out of
11 homelessness and back into the workforce. The Hawaii public
12 housing authority helps provide affordable and supportive
13 housing to qualified Hawaii residents, including individuals who
14 are transitioning out of homelessness or faced with other
15 circumstances. A boarding house for persons emerging from
16 homelessness and other transitional circumstances, managed by



1 the Hawaii public housing authority, will increase the
2 affordable housing options for Hawaii residents.

3 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 4 (1) Require the Hawaii public housing authority to develop
5 and implement a pilot project to establish a boarding
6 house on state land on the island of Oahu to provide
7 transitional housing for qualifying individuals; and
8 (2) Appropriate funds.

9 SECTION 2. (a) The Hawaii public housing authority shall
10 develop and implement a pilot project to establish a boarding
11 house to assist those persons transitioning out of homelessness
12 or re-entering the workforce. The boarding house shall:

- 13 (1) Be located on state land on the island of Oahu;
14 (2) Consist of at least thirty units and include shared
15 kitchens and bathrooms; and
16 (3) Be managed by the Hawaii public housing authority.

17 (b) The Hawaii public housing authority shall adopt rules,
18 pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, necessary to
19 develop and implement the boarding house pilot project, which
20 may include:



(1) Eligibility or length of stay requirements for

boarding house residents; or

(2) Establishing programs to teach the boarding house

residents appropriate and necessary life skills, and

address substance abuse, alcoholism, and mental health
issues.

(c) The Hawaii public housing authority may collaborate
with other departments as needed to carry out the pilot project.

(d) The Hawaii public housing authority shall submit a
report of its findings and recommendations relating to the pilot
project, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature
no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
session of 2022. The report shall include a recommendation by
the Hawaii public housing authority whether to continue, expand,
or end the pilot project.

SECTION 3. The director of finance is authorized to issue
general obligation bonds in the sum of \$8,000,000 or so much
thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof
as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2020-2021
for the Hawaii public housing authority to plan, design, and
construct a boarding house, or purchase and renovate as



1 necessary a two- or three-story walk up building, for persons
2 transitioning out of homelessness or re-entering the workforce,
3 as described in section 2 of this Act.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii public
5 housing authority for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 4. The appropriation made for the capital
7 improvement project authorized by this Act shall not lapse at
8 the end of the fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is
9 made; provided that all moneys from the appropriation
10 unencumbered as of June 30, 2022, shall lapse as of that date.

11 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
14 two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) positions within the Hawaii
15 public housing authority to run the boarding house pilot project
16 established in section 2 of this Act.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii public
18 housing authority for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. **2599**

Hamilton
Paul E. P.
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S.B. NO. 2599

Report Title:

Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Pilot Project; Boarding House;
GO Bonds; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Hawaii public housing authority to develop and implement a pilot project to establish a boarding house for those transitioning out of homelessness or re-entering the workforce. Requires a report to the legislature. Appropriates funds.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

