

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2020

RE: S.B. No. 2952
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Housing and Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 2952 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to assist low-income housing renters in the state by appropriating funds for the state rent supplement program.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Partners in Care, Catholic Charities Hawai'i, and two individuals.

Your Committees find that Hawaii has the highest per capita rate of homelessness of any state in the nation and the highest rate of chronically unsheltered homeless per capita of any state. Your Committees further find that the state rent supplement for homeless families and individuals is critically necessary to address homelessness. Your Committees further find that the state rent supplement program provides a "shallow", but sustained subsidy to struggling households. Unlike the "deep" subsidy housing choice voucher program, better known as the section 8 program, which helps families at the lowest ends of the income scale by bridging a wide affordability gap between income and housing costs, the state rent supplement program helps households

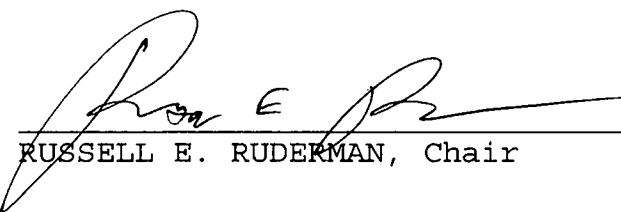


who are closer to financial self-sufficiency but still have a narrow affordability gap to fill. The state rent supplement program provides an ongoing subsidy, enabling homeless households or those at imminent risk of homelessness to close the affordability gap, maintain housing, and achieve self-sufficiency. This measure appropriates funds to support the state rent supplement program. Your Committees note the testimony from both Partners in Care and Catholic Charities Hawai'i, who both testified that given the expansion of this program, part of the appropriations should be spent on additional staffing. Your Committees further note the recommendation of Catholic Charities Hawaii, who notes that given the increasing number of homeless in Hawaii, that this appropriation be made a permanent increase in the base budget of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for the state rent supplement program.

Therefore, your Committees have amended this measure by setting the appropriation amount of \$5 million.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Housing and Human Services that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2952, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2952, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Housing and Human
Services,



RUSSELL E. RUDEKMAN, Chair

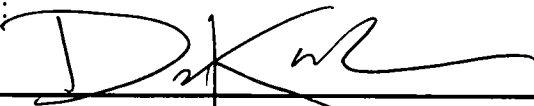


STANLEY CHANG, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Housing
HOU

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2952	HOU/HMS, WAM	2-4-20		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
CHANG, Stanley (C)	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo (VC)	✓			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5			
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2952	Committee Referral: HOU/HMS, WAM	Date: 2/4/20		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (C)	✓			
RHOADS, Karl (VC)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Karl Rhoads</i>				
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