

#### STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

# Statement of **DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA**

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

February 4, 2020 at 9:15 a.m. State Capitol, Room 423

In consideration of H.B. 2470 RELATING TO HOUSING.

The HHFDC supports H.B. 2470, with requested amendments.

HHFDC is willing to conduct the feasibility study on the 15.418-acre parcel in Honokaa identified in the bill. We believe the amount appropriated in the bill is sufficient to conduct this study.

However, it is our understanding that currently, title to that parcel is in the name of the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH), the predecessor agency to both the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) and the HHFDC. As such, the HPHA cannot convey title to the property to HHFDC. Accordingly we request that Section 2 of the bill be replaced with the following language:

SECTION 2. The Hawaii housing finance and development corporation shall take title to the 15.418-acre parcel of land identified as TMK No. (3) 4-5-010: 122; provided that the Hawaii housing finance and development corporation determines, upon completion of its due diligence, that the parcel is suitable for residential development. The Hawaii housing finance and development corporation shall be responsible for properly documenting any change in title.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAKIM OUANSAFI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

#### STATE OF HAWAII

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

Before the

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:15 AM - Room 423, Hawaii State Capitol

> In consideration of HB 2470 RELATING TO HOUSING

Honorable Chair Brower, and Members of the House Committee on Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning House Bill (HB) 2470, relating to housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) <u>supports</u> HB 2470, which directs the HPHA to convey a specified 15.418-acre parcel in Honokaa, Hawaii County, to HHFDC. Requires HHFDC to conduct a feasibility study to determine whether the parcel is suitable for residential development and offers the following comments.

The HPHA fully supports the creation of affordable housing by the HPHA or our sister agency the HHFDC. Please know that the HPHA does not hold title to the property, but if the Legislature wishes to convey the parcel to HHFDC for the purposes of conducting a feasibility study to develop an affordable rental housing project, then the HPHA will support the Legislature's request.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Committee with the HPHA's testimony regarding HB 2470. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.