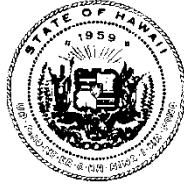


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



LATE

DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of
DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 26, 2020 at 1:40 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

In consideration of
S.B. 2658, S.D. 1
RELATING TO HOUSING.

HHFDC **offers the following comments** on S.B. 2658, S.D. 1, which establishes the position of State Housing Coordinator within the HHFDC to focus efforts toward addressing the housing shortage. HHFDC is willing to take on this position, provided that there is an appropriation of General Funds to cover salary and fringe benefits for the State Housing Coordinator.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments on this bill.



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
State Capitol, Conference Room 211
415 South Beretania Street
1:40 PM**

February 26, 2020

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 2658 SD 1, RELATED TO HOUSING

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

My name is Dwight Mitsunaga, 2020 President of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. Our members build the communities we all call home.

BIA-Hawaii is in strong support of S.B. 2658 S.D. 1, which proposes to create the position of Housing Coordinator who has the duties of gathering information about housing in Hawaii and collaborating with various state agencies in order to increase the current housing supply at all price points.

The bill addresses a glaring problem in government as it attempts to address the housing crisis in Hawaii. The State lacks a dedicated housing coordinator who understands real estate development and the government land process. This has resulted in "silos" being created by agencies who have control of land (i.e. lease or Executive Order), but no understanding of the state's overall goal to increase the supply of housing at all price points. Agencies want to accommodate their own specific goals/mission on the lands they control right now. As a result, state land assets are redeveloped for uses that do not achieve a greater public purpose.

We would suggest that the position be provided with enough authority to breakdown the agency silos and move projects forward that will increase the supply of housing at all price points.

We are in strong support of S.B. 2658 SD 1, and appreciate the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

Partners in Housing



Co Chairs:

Dean Uchida
BIA Hawaii

Jean Lilley
Hawaii Habitat for Humanity

Participating Organizations:

AIA Hawaii State Council

AIA Honolulu

AIA Maui

BIA-Hawaii

Chamber of Commerce of
Hawaii

EAH Housing

FACE

Hawaii Appleseed Center for
Law & Economic Justice

Hawaiian Community Assets

Hawaii Community
Development Board

Hawaii Habitat for Humanity

Self-Help Housing Corporation
of Hawaii

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

415 South Beretania Street

1:40 PM

February 26, 2020

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 2658 SD 1, RELATED TO HOUSING

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

Partners in Housing (PIH) was created by the Building Industry Association leaders and leaders from various non-profit developers and affordable housing advocates. We are committed to working with our community leaders to help solve the housing shortage in our beloved state and to be a solution to providing housing, specifically to people in Hawaii that are struggling with housing costs.

This new alliance has a basic tenet: Everyone in Hawaii should be able to afford stable, permanent rental or for-sale housing at all price points and income levels. Hawaii's current housing crisis requires that everyone involved in housing needs to work together toward addressing the housing need across the state. Our Partners in Housing support broad policies regarding housing and support services. We will advocate for planning, funding and building of infrastructure focusing on transit-oriented development areas and for more government support of affordable housing via funding, improved permitting and creative use of government lands.

PIH is in strong support of S.B. 2658 S.D. 1, which proposes to create the position of Housing Coordinator who has the duties of gathering information about housing in Hawaii and collaborating with various state agencies in order to increase the current housing supply at all price points.

We are in strong support of S.B. 2658 SD 1, and appreciate the opportunity to express our views on this matter.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII
The Voice of Business

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 1:40 P.M.

Conference Room 211, State Capitol

LATE

RE: SB 2658 SD 1, RELATING TO HOUSING

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") is in **support** of SB 2658 SD1, which proposes to create the position of Governor's director of housing who has the duties of gathering information about housing in Hawaii and collaborating with various state agencies in order to increase the current housing supply at all price points.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The State, at this time, does not have an expert who understands real estate development and the government land process. This has resulted in "silos" being created by agencies who have control of land (i.e. lease or Executive Order) but limited understanding of the state's overall goal to increase the supply of housing at all price points. Agencies generally accommodate their own specific goals/mission on the lands they control and as a result these lands are redeveloped for uses that do not necessarily achieve a greater public purpose. Also, as a part of the Governor's office, this position will be able to move projects forward that will increase the supply of housing at all price points.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2658 SD1.

LATE

SB-2658-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2020 11:04:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2020 1:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Azuma Chrupalyk	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I, discussed this bill with a room full of researching teenagers - future voters, and we collectively decided to oppose this bill and point out that if we had wage equality to match the costs of living, that people could afford to live in existing structures that are being used as Air BnB locations, because people simply cannot afford to pay the rent. You can build all the 35 unit subdivisions that you want, which only have 7-11 low income homes available and still 80% of Hawai'i's population cannot afford to qualify, let alone only a handful will get picked to live in a neighborhood full of people who come from a 100% different background with one another. This is considered gentrification and it aids in the removal of Hawaiians from our identities. We need wages much higher than \$13/hour to stay home. These are the types of bills that continue to tear our communities apart now. They want to continually increase the housing supply at all price points. Um, no. Still can't sell the ones that have been empty for a long time.