A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that nearly fifty years
- 2 ago, the State issued a report stating that Hawaii had been
- 3 experiencing a serious housing problem for many years, which by
- 4 then had become a crisis. In the decades since, the State's
- 5 housing problem has worsened. High housing costs and a lack of
- 6 affordable housing particularly affect kupuna living on fixed,
- 7 low incomes.
- 8 The legislature further finds that the State is beginning
- 9 to see the effects of a growing aging population. Hawaii's
- 10 elderly population, those sixty-five years and older, increased
- 11 thirty-three per cent from 2010 to 2018, reflecting an annual
- 12 growth of 3.6 per cent, compared with Hawaii's total annual
- 13 population growth of 0.5 per cent.
- 14 The legislature also finds that more renters are at
- 15 increased risk of becoming homeless due to the coronavirus
- 16 pandemic. Even prior to the pandemic, studies predicted that
- 17 homelessness among the elderly would increase by three hundred

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- 1 per cent over the next ten years. The legislature finds that
- 2 investing in rental housing for the elderly is critical to
- 3 ensure safe, decent, and affordable housing for kupuna. The
- 4 recent Hawai'i Housing Planning Study, 2019, found that
- 5 1,967 units of housing are needed by 2025 for low-moderate
- 6 income elderly households, age sixty-plus.
- 7 The legislature additionally finds that phase 1 of the
- 8 School street elderly housing project on Oahu on Hawaii public
- 9 housing authority property will include two hundred fifty units
- 10 for kupuna with incomes at sixty per cent area median income or
- 11 below, which would provide critical momentum to develop the
- 12 eight hundred rental units planned for all three phases of this
- 13 redevelopment. The legislature notes that because the land is
- 14 currently being used for the authority's administration,
- 15 displacement of residents will not occur. The proposed housing
- 16 project, located near a city bus stop and situated next to the
- 17 Lanakila multi-purpose senior center and close to medical
- 18 facilities, shopping, and community businesses and activities,
- 19 will encourage community engagement to keep seniors healthy.
- 20 Phase 1 of the elderly housing project will also act as an
- 21 economic driver to improve economic and employment stability.

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- 1 Furthermore, hundreds of jobs would be generated during and
- 2 after construction. The legislature also notes that this
- 3 project has received all the necessary land use permits and
- 4 entitlements to begin construction once funds are secured.
- 5 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the issuance of
- 6 general obligation bonds for phase I of construction of a senior
- 7 affordable housing project on Hawaii public housing authority
- 8 property on School street on Oahu.
- 9 SECTION 2. The director of finance is authorized to issue
- 10 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$40,000,000 or so much
- 11 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof
- 12 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2021-2022 to
- 13 be deposited into the rental housing revolving fund established
- 14 pursuant to section 201H-202, Hawaii Revised Statutes.
- 15 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the rental housing
- 16 revolving fund established pursuant to section 201H-202, Hawaii
- 17 Revised Statutes, the sum of \$40,000,000 or so much thereof as
- 18 may be necessary for fiscal year 2021-2022 for construction of
- 19 phase I of the School street elderly housing project, a senior
- 20 affordable housing project on Hawaii public housing authority
- 21 property on School street, Oahu.

- 1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
- 2 housing finance and development corporation for the purposes of
- 3 this Act.
- 4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

Report Title:

General Obligation Bonds; Rental Housing Revolving Fund; Senior Affordable Housing; Appropriation

Description:

Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds to be appropriated into and out of the rental housing revolving fund for construction of phase I of a senior affordable housing project on Hawaii public housing authority property on School street, Oahu. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

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