

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1099

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 24 2021

RE: H.B. No. 79
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 79,
H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the affordable homeownership revolving fund within the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to provide loans to nonprofit community development financial institutions and nonprofit housing development organizations for the development of affordable homeownership housing projects; and
- (2) Appropriate funds from the affordable homeownership revolving fund for loans for the development of affordable for-sale housing projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of Realtors; Hawaii Habitat for Humanity Association; Habitat for Humanity Hawaii Island, Inc.; HOPE Services Hawai'i, Inc.; St. Michael the Archangel Parish; Lei Ho'olaha CDFI, Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and one individual. Your Committee



received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that homeownership is positively correlated with economic and social stability. However, the number of full-time Hawaii residents who own homes has steadily declined over the last fifty years. Currently, Hawaii has the third lowest homeownership rate of any state in the nation. To help solve this problem, self-help housing, nonprofit developers, and community land trust organizations can leverage federal funds to build houses that are available for purchase by low- and moderate-income households, but only if these organizations can provide additional non-federal matching funds. Your Committee further finds that the additional matching funds required can be provided by the establishment of an affordable homeownership revolving fund. The use of this fund, together with federal funds, can create homeownership opportunities for more of Hawaii's residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the appropriation amount from an unspecified amount to \$1,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 79, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 79, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Housing,


STANLEY CHANG, Chair



Record of Votes
Committee on Housing
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*Only one measure per Record of Votes