
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT VERY LOW INCOME NATIVE HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the
2 public land trust are for the benefit of the native Hawaiian
3 people; and
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5 WHEREAS, the waitlist for residential and farming
6 homesteads reached 28,500 native Hawaiian adults in 2019, and
7 still currently remains around 28,000 adults despite pledges of
8 money and programs designed to expedite the process of reducing
9 the waitlist; and
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11 WHEREAS, over two thousand native Hawaiians have died while
12 on the waitlist; and
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14 WHEREAS, Hawaii has one of the worst homeless rates in the
15 country when measured by the number of homeless per 10,000
16 people and Hawaii's homeless population contains a
17 disproportionately high number of native Hawaiians; and
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19 WHEREAS, partially due to the coronavirus disease 2019
20 pandemic, even those native Hawaiians who are renting are having
21 difficulties keeping up with rising costs; and
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23 WHEREAS, the average mortgage in Hawaii currently is over
24 \$600,000 which is nearly impossible to support every month at
25 conventional rates if rent is already an issue; and
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27 WHEREAS, the State is currently in the process of hopefully
28 approving compost toilets for use; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
32 that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is requested to



1 implement programs that would support very low income
2 beneficiaries; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Hawaiian Home
5 Lands is requested to consider the following potential
6 solutions:
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- 8 (1) Awarding vacant land leases which could be used to
9 live in county approved temporary structures with an
10 accompanying Department of Health approved wastewater
11 treatment system;
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- 13 (2) Duplicating the Puuhonua O Waianae model on every
14 island possibly through awarding general leases to
15 homestead groups; and
16
- 17 (3) Requesting the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to
18 provide rental assistance, mortgage assistance, and
19 down payment assistance subject to eligibility
20 criterion and sufficient funds; and
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Department
24 of Hawaiian Home Lands and Chairperson of the Office of Hawaiian
25 Affairs.

