
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that much of the State's
2 aging public housing stock has fallen into disrepair. Without
3 adequate reinvestment, deteriorating structural conditions can
4 worsen and pose significant risks to many low-income families
5 who need or already receive housing assistance. The legislature
6 also finds that public housing vacancies have hindered the
7 State's efforts to expand affordable housing availability at a
8 time when it is most desperately needed.

9 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii public
10 housing authority is responsible for administering a federal and
11 state low-income public housing program. With properties
12 statewide, the Hawaii public housing authority manages
13 approximately 6,270 units of public housing throughout the
14 State. The Hawaii public housing authority estimates that there
15 are currently three hundred dwelling units lying vacant because
16 they require extensive capital repairs.



1 The legislature additionally finds that a significant
2 majority of Hawaii's public housing residents have household
3 incomes of less than thirty per cent of the applicable area
4 median income, with few exceptions. Local demand for affordable
5 rental units continues to greatly outpace the construction of
6 any new supply. The legislature notes that housing developers
7 often struggle to make such projects pencil out. Many housing
8 developers also find projects completely cost-prohibitive. As
9 such, the legislature believes repairing vacant public housing
10 units offers a partial, yet straightforward solution to easing
11 Hawaii's affordable housing crisis. The Hawaii public housing
12 authority anticipates that these vacant units could be made
13 habitable again in as quickly as eighteen months.

14 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
15 funds to repair and improve the quality of the State's existing
16 public housing in order to expand affordable housing
17 opportunities for Hawaii's most disadvantaged families.

18 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
21 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal



1 year 2024-2025 for the Hawaii public housing authority to
2 contract out; without regard to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised
3 Statutes; for the repair, renovation, improvements, and
4 maintenance of federal and state low-income public housing units
5 from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2025.

6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
7 public housing authority for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 3. The Hawaii public housing authority shall
9 submit reports of completed and pending projects, and the
10 timeframe or timeline of each project, funded under this Act to
11 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
12 of the regular sessions of 2024 and 2025.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.

14



H.B. NO. 680 H.D. 1

Report Title:

Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Rehabilitation; Dwelling Units;
Report; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii public housing authority for the repair, renovation, improvements, and maintenance of dwelling units at federal and state low-income public housing projects. Requires the Hawaii public housing authority to submit reports regarding completed and pending projects. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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