JOSH GREEN, M.D.



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IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Thursday, February 2, 2023 1:00 PM – Room 225, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of SB 999
RELATING TO HOUSING

Honorable Chair Chang and members of the Senate Committee on Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning Senate Bill (SB) 340, relating to housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) **supports** the enactment of SB 999, which seeks to appropriate funds to the HPHA to modernize Hale Poai.

The HPHA's mission is to provide Hawaii's residents with adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity, and suitable living environments that are free from discrimination through both its public housing and rental assistance programs. The HPHA serves our state's most disadvantaged populations, including families earning less than thirty percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), the disabled, and the elderly.

Hale Poai is a State elderly public housing property that is located at 1001 North School Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817, with a date of initial occupancy of June 1, 1989, and consists of 80 studio units and 126 one-bedroom units. This property is currently undergoing a 5-year, major modernization project which includes, but is not limited to site work/common exterior work for the building exterior, community space, parking lot, plumbing systems, converting 4 studio units to ADA, and complete unit work. The \$500,000 appropriation will be used for

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construction management services to include, but not be limited to, information requests, submittals, cost proposals, contractor meetings, and coordination of scheduled and unforeseen construction issues to ensure that all construction work at Hale Poai is done in an expeditious manner to meet its 5-year completion timeline.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Committee with its testimony regarding SB 999. We thank you very much for your dedicated and continued support.