

MAR 10 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO IDENTIFY
RESOURCES NEEDED TO EXECUTE A PLAN TO REPAIR HOMES FOR SAFE
HABITATION.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands endeavors to
2 provide housing to applicants on its waitlist but has limited
3 land assets with the necessary infrastructure for housing; and
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5 WHEREAS, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands properties in
6 already-developed communities may be unoccupied for various
7 reasons, including a pending transfer or the inability of
8 lessees to afford to maintain the home, thereby rendering the
9 home unlivable or unsafe; and
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11 WHEREAS, these properties and the infrastructure developed
12 for these properties are not only failing to achieve their
13 intended purpose but also, when abandoned, change the character
14 of the community and pose a safety hazard for neighborhood
15 residents, as these unoccupied properties are sometimes taken
16 over by squatters; and
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18 WHEREAS, unoccupied properties, if repaired, have the
19 potential to house the existing lessees or new lessees of the
20 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; now, therefore,
21

22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
24 that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is requested to
25 identify resources needed to execute a plan that:
26

- 27 (1) Systematically identifies unoccupied Department of
28 Hawaiian Homes Lands properties in disrepair to
29 confirm the occupancy status, lease status, and
30 reasons for the current status;
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- 1 (2) Assists current lessees in assessing what repairs are
- 2 needed to make their homes safe and habitable;
- 3
- 4 (3) Connects identified lessees who are in need of help
- 5 with applicable sources of funding, such as the Native
- 6 American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act
- 7 of 1996;
- 8
- 9 (4) Manages alternative sources of funding;
- 10
- 11 (5) Follows up to facilitate and expedite pending lease
- 12 transfers; and
- 13
- 14 (6) Conducts contested case hearings, as needed; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Hawaiian
 17 Homes Lands is requested to submit a report of its findings and
 18 the resources identified to the Legislature no later than twenty
 19 days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 22 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Chairperson of the
 23 Hawaiian Homes Commission.
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 26

OFFERED BY: 

