

# GOV. MSG. NO. 1141

#### EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA

May 30, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate, and Members of the Senate Thirty-Second State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 The Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, and Members of the House of Representatives Thirty-Second State Legislature State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on May 30, 2024, the following bill was signed into law:

HB2801 HD1 SD1 CD1

RELATING TO COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED FINANCING. **ACT 041** 

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

on MAY 3 0 2024

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024 STATE OF HAWAII ACT 041
H.B. NO. 2801
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED FINANCING.

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

1	SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 183, Session
2	Laws of Hawaii 2022, authorized commercial property assessed
3	financing, also known as commercial property assessed clean
4	energy and resiliency, or C-PACER financing, in Hawaii. C-PACER
5	is an alternative financing option that finances one hundred per
6	cent of qualified capital improvement costs, with terms matching
7	the useful life of the equipment installed, thereby making
8	payments more affordable than a typical equipment loan. The
9	legislature further finds that C-PACER financing can help
10	condominium associations finance the installation of fire safety
1	and other energy efficiency, renewable energy, water
12	conservation, and resiliency measures at more attractive rates
13	and terms than may be currently available with conventional
14	financing.
15	The purpose of this Act is to:
16	(1) Consolidate the authority to administer a C-PACER
17	financing program under the Hawaii green

1		infrastructure authority by repealing the authority of
2		counties to administer such programs and delegating
3	·	all existing administrative responsibilities of the
4		counties under the commercial property assessed
5		financing program to the Hawaii green infrastructure
6		authority;
7	(2)	Enable condominium associations to participate in
8		C-PACER financing; and
9	(3)	Provide clarity to the definition of a commercial
10		property for purposes of green infrastructure loans.
11	SECT	ION 2. Section 46-80, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12	amended t	o read as follows:
13	"§ <b>4</b> 6	-80 Improvement by assessment; financing[; commercial
14	property	assessed financing program]. [(a)] Any county having
15	a charter	may enact an ordinance, and may amend the same from
16	time to t	ime, providing for the making and financing of
17	improveme	nt districts in the county, and the improvements may be
18	made and	financed under the ordinance. The county may issue and
19	sell bond	s to provide funds for the improvements. Bonds issued
20	to provid	le funds for the improvements may be either bonds when
21	the only	security therefor is the properties benefited or

1	improved of the assessments thereon of bonds payable from taxes
2	or secured by the taxing power of the county. If the bonds are
3	secured only by the properties benefited or improved or the
4	assessments thereon, the bonds shall be issued according and
5	subject to the provisions of the ordinance. If the bonds are
6	payable from taxes or secured by the taxing power, the bonds
7	shall be issued according and subject to chapter 47. Except as
8	is otherwise provided in section 46-80.1, in assessing land for
9	improvements a county shall assess the land within an
10	improvement district according to the special benefits conferred
11	upon the land by the special improvement; these methods include
12	assessment on a frontage basis or according to the area of land
13	within an improvement district, or any other assessment method
14	that assesses the land according to the special benefit
15	conferred, or any combination thereof.
16	[ <del>(b) There is established a special improvement program to</del>
17	be known as a commercial property assessed financing program,
18	which shall be administered by the Hawaii green infrastructure
19	authority. A commercial property owner may apply to a
20	commercial property assessed financing lender, approved by the
21	authority, for property assessed financing to pay the cost of

1	qualifying improvements and enter into a commercial property
2	assessed financing contract with a commercial property assessed
3	financing lender and the authority. Costs incurred for
4	qualifying improvements shall be levied and collected by each
5	county, as provided in section 196-64.5, as a non-ad valorem
6	special tax assessment on the benefitted commercial property.
7	The authority, on behalf of the State, shall authorize
8	commercial property assessed financing assessment contracts as
9	instruments of indebtedness in the form as may be prescribed by
10	the authority. Commercial property assessed financing
11	assessment contracts authorized to finance qualifying
12	improvements, when the only security is the non-ad valorem
13	special tax assessment levied against benefitted or improved
14	commercial property, shall be excluded from any determination of
15	the power of the State to issue general obligation bonds or
16	funded debt for purposes of section 13 of article VII of the
17	state constitution.
18	(c) Any county having a charter may enact an ordinance,
19	and may amend the same from time to time, to establish a special
20	improvement program containing the same elements as the
21	commercial property assessed financing program authorized under

1	chapter 196 and subsection (b), except that any program that is
2	established shall be administered by the county in lieu of
3	administration by the authority. The county shall assume all of
4	the responsibilities of the authority provided in chapter 196
5	and subsection (b), including determining qualifying
6	improvements eligible for property assessed financing. A
7	commercial property owner may apply to the county for property
8	assessed financing to pay the costs of qualifying improvements
9	and enter into a commercial property assessed financing
10	assessment contract with an approved commercial property
11	assessed financing lender and the county. Costs incurred for
12	qualifying improvements shall be levied and collected by each
13	county, as provided in section 196-64.5, as a non-ad valorem
14	special tax assessment on the benefitted commercial property.
15	The county may issue revenue bonds to finance or refinance the
16	improvements, and the form of any revenue bond may be a
17	commercial property assessed financing assessment contract or
18	other instrument prescribed by the county. Bonds issued to
19	finance qualifying improvements, when the only security is the
20	non-ad valorem special tax assessment levied against benefitted
21	or improved commercial property, shall be excluded from any

- 1 determination of the power of the county to issue general
- 2 obligation bonds or funded debt for purposes of article VII,
- 3 section 13, of the state constitution.]"
- 4 SECTION 3. Section 196-61, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 5 amended as follows:
- 6 1. By adding two new definitions to be appropriately
- 7 inserted and to read:
- 8 ""Assessment" means a financing assessment imposed by the
- 9 authority on a benefitted commercial property pursuant to
- 10 section 196-64.5.
- "Property owner" or "owner" means the owner or owners of
- 12 record of commercial property, except that in the case of a
- 13 condominium, "owner" shall mean the condominium association and
- 14 not the owner or owners of individual residential condominium
- 15 units."
- 2. By amending the definitions of "commercial property"
- 17 and "commercial property assessed financing assessment" to read:
- ""Commercial property" means [any]:
- 19 (1) Any existing or new non-residential real property [not
- 20 defined as a residential property, and shall include],

1		including any property where there is a leasehold or
2		possessory interest in the property [and any];
3	(2)	Any multi-family dwelling or townhouse consisting of
4		five or more units [as well as agricultural];
5	(3)	Any condominium organized under chapter 514B
6		consisting of six or more units; provided that
7		individual residential condominium units shall not be
8		considered commercial property and shall be ineligible
9		to apply for commercial property assessed financing
10		under this part; or
l <b>1</b>	(4)	Agricultural property.
12	"Com	mercial property assessed financing assessment" or
13	"financin	g assessment" means the [non-ad valorem special tax]
14	annual as	sessment [that secures], secured by a lien on a
15	property,	for the repayment of financing obtained by an owner of
16	commercia	l property for a qualifying improvement [and that
17	<del>appears o</del>	n a property tax bill. that is billed and collected by
18	the autho	rity."
19	3.	By amending the definitions of "commercial property
20	assessed	financing lender" and "commercial property assessed
21	financing	program" to read:

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- 1 ""Commercial property assessed financing lender" means a
- 2 financial institution as defined pursuant to section 412:1-109,
- 3 or a private or public lender approved by the authority, as the
- 4 administrator of the commercial property assessed financing
- 5 program, to originate commercial property assessed financing
- 6 assessment contracts, and [which] that may include any successor
- 7 or assignee of the lender as provided in the commercial property
- 8 assessed financing assessment contract.
- 9 "Commercial property assessed financing program" means a
- 10 program to finance qualifying improvements on commercial
- 11 properties that are repaid through [a non-ad valorem special
- 12 tax] an assessment imposed by the authority on the commercial
- 13 property owner's property [tax bill]."
- 4. By amending the definition of "option to purchase" to
- 15 read:
- ""Option to purchase" means a legally binding agreement
- 17 between a buyer and a seller[, which] that gives the buyer the
- 18 option, but not the obligation, to purchase the solar energy
- 19 system or other installed equipment at an agreed upon price,
- 20 prior to the maturity date of the power purchase agreement or
- 21 energy performance contract."

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1 5. By deleting the definition of "county director of 2 finance" or "county director of budget and fiscal services". 3 [""County director of finance" or "county director of 4 budget and fiscal services" means the officer or officers of the 5 county charged with the responsibility of administering the real 6 property taxation function of the county."] 7 6. By deleting the definition of "non-ad valorem special 8 tax assessment". 9 [""Non-ad valorem special tax assessment" means a special 10 tax assessment or governmental charge levied by the county as provided in section 196-64.5 on a benefitted commercial property 11 12 that appears on a property tax bill."] SECTION 4. Section 196-64.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 13 amended to read as follows: 14 "[f]\$196-64.5[f] Commercial property assessed financing 15 program. (a) [Any county having a charter may authorize the 16 17 authority, pursuant to this section, to offer a commercial 18 property assessed financing program within its jurisdiction and 19 may contract with the authority for that purpose, and any county 20 having a charter may enact its own commercial property assessed 21 financing program pursuant to this section and section 46-80(b)

1	and (e). There is established a commercial property assessed
2	financing program to be administered by the authority to enable
3	owners of qualifying property to access non-traditional
4	financing for qualifying improvements. Program financing shall
5	be secured by a voluntary assessment imposed on the benefitted
6	property that is secured by a statutory lien; provided that the
7	statutory lien shall have priority over all other liens except
8	the liens for property taxes and other assessments lawfully
9	imposed by a governmental authority against the property.
10	(b) [The] In administering the commercial property
11	assessed financing program, the authority[, as the administrator
12	of the commercial property assessed financing program, shall
13	coordinate with each county to bill and collect a non-ad valorem
14	special tax assessment on a benefitted commercial property as a
15	repayment mechanism on the real property tax bill or stand-alone
16	bill. The non-ad valorem special tax] may impose a governmental
17	lien to secure commercial property assessed financing against
18	real property specially benefitted pursuant to the program
19	established by this section. Commercial property assessed
20	financing shall be secured by the voluntary governmental lien

and repaid in assessment installments in accordance with the

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1	commercial property assessed financing assessment contract and
2	billed and collected by the authority. The principal amount of
3	financing made pursuant to this section shall be a governmental
4	lien against each lot or parcel of the property, or in the case
5	of a condominium, a governmental lien against the condominium
6	association, assessed for a period beginning on the date of the
7	notice of the assessment and ending once payment is made in full
8	or otherwise satisfied in accordance with the commercial
9	property assessed financing assessment contract; provided that
10	the lien shall have priority over all other liens except the
11	liens for property taxes and other assessments lawfully imposed
12	by governmental authority against the property; provided further
13	that for multiple liens of assessments, the earlier lien shall
14	have priority over the later lien. Neither the governmental
15	lien nor the assessment for repayment on a benefitted commercial
16	property pursuant to this section shall [not be] constitute a
17	[generally applicable] tax upon the real property [but shall be
18	collected in the same manner as real property taxes as a result
19	of a benefit to the commercial property owners for qualifying
20	improvements.] within the meaning of any constitutional or
21	statutory provision. The requirement of lender consent pursuant

1	to subsection (c)(7) shall be satisfied for the priority of the					
2	lien to be valid.					
3	(c)	The authority shall design $[a]$ the commercial property				
4	assessed :	financing program authorized under this section [and				
5	section 4	5-80(b) that addresses] to address market needs while				
6	attracting private capital [and that shall,]; provided that the					
7	program,	at $[a]$ minimum, shall include the following elements:				
8	(1)	A commercial property owner of qualifying property in				
9		the State may apply to the authority for approval to				
10		use commercial property assessed financing to pay the				
11		cost of qualifying improvements and enter into a				
12		commercial property assessed financing contract with				
13		an approved commercial property assessed financing				
14		lender and the authority;				
15	[ <del>-(1)</del> ]	(2) A commercial property assessed financing lender				
16		may enter into a commercial property assessed				
17		financing assessment contract to finance or refinance				
18		a qualifying improvement only with the [recorded]				
19		owner of the [affected] commercial property and the				
20		authority. Each commercial property assessed				
21		financing assessment contract shall be executed by the				

	authority as the administrator of the commercial
	property assessed financing program. A commercial
	property assessed financing assessment contract shall
	require the authority to assign, pledge, and transfer
	revenues to be derived from commercial property
	assessed financing assessments to one or more
	commercial property assessed financing lenders as
	security for their direct financing of qualifying
	improvements. The obligation of the authority to
	transfer the revenues to one or more commercial
	property assessed financing lenders shall be evidenced
	by the commercial property assessed financing
	assessment contract as an instrument of indebtedness
	in a form as may be prescribed by the authority. No
	other bonds shall be required to be issued by the
	State, the authority, any county, or any other public
	entity in order to cause qualifying improvements to be
	funded through a commercial property assessed
	financing assessment contract;
[ <del>(2)</del> ]	(3) Qualifying improvements shall be affixed to a
	building or facility or affixed to real property,
	[ <del>-(2)</del> -]

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1		subj	ect to the commercial property assessed financing
2		asse	ssments;
3	[ <del>-(3)-</del> ]	(4)	Before entering into a commercial property
4		asse	ssed financing assessment contract, the commercial
5		prop	erty assessed financing lender shall reasonably
6		dete	rmine that:
7		(A)	The commercial property owner is able to borrow
8			the amount of the property assessed financing
9			using reasonable commercial underwriting
10			practices;
11		(B)	All property taxes applicable to the commercial
12			property, and any other assessments levied on the
13			same bill as property taxes, are paid; and
14		(C)	There are no involuntary liens applicable to the
15			commercial property, including but not limited to
16			construction liens, that will not be paid or
17			satisfied upon the closing of the financing;
18	[ <del>(4)</del> ]	<u>(5)</u>	The commercial property assessed financing
19		asse	ssment contract shall include the amount of an
20		annu	al assessment, including interest, over a fixed
21		term	that [will appear as a non-ad valorem special tax

1		assessment on the commercial property owner s tax bill
2		or stand-alone bill annually; ] shall be billed
3		annually or as otherwise specified by the authority
4		and collected by the authority in accordance with the
5		commercial property assessed financing lender's
6		amortization schedule;
7	[ <del>-(5)-</del> ]	(6) The commercial property assessed financing
8		assessment contract, or summary memorandum of the
9		contract, shall be recorded by the commercial property
10		assessed financing lender in the public records of the
11		State [or of the county within which the commercial
12		property is located] within five days after execution
13		by the parties to the contract. The recorded contract
14		shall provide constructive notice of the [levy of,]
15		<u>lien</u> and obligation of the commercial property owner
16		to $pay[ au]$ the commercial property assessed financing
17	÷ .	assessment. The entire principal amount of the
18		commercial property assessed financing assessment [to
19		be levied on the commercial property] contract shall
20		be a [non-ad valorem special tax assessment and a]
21	- **	governmental statutory lien against the commercial

1		property [on a parity with the lien of general real
2		property taxes and the lien of any other assessments
3		levied under section 46-80, from] that shall be
4		assessed for a period beginning on the date of
5		recordation entered into pursuant to this section
6		[until] and ending once paid or satisfied in
7		accordance with the commercial property assessed
8		financing assessment contract; provided that the lien
9		shall have priority over all other liens except the
10		liens for property taxes and other assessments
11		lawfully imposed by a governmental authority against
12		the property;
13	[ <del>-(6)</del> -]	(7) Before entering into a commercial property
14		assessed financing assessment contract for any
15		commercial property, the commercial property owner
16		shall [ <del>provide</del> ]:
17		(A) (i) Provide the authority and the commercial
18		property assessed financing lender with
19		evidence of the written consent of each
20		holder or loan servicer of any mortgage that
21		encumbers or otherwise secures the

1		commercial property, where the consent is in
2 .		the sole and absolute discretion of each
3		holder or loan servicer of a mortgage on the
4		commercial property, at the time of the
5		execution of the commercial property
6		assessed financing assessment contract by
7		the parties; provided that the consents
8		shall be in a form prescribed by the
9		authority; and
	<u>(ii)</u>	For a commercial property that is a
11		condominium organized under chapter 514B, or
12		preceding state law governing condominium
13		property regimes, as an alternative to
14		clause (i), the condominium association
15		shall provide the authority and the
16		commercial property assessed financing
17		lender with evidence of the written consent
18		of each creditor with a valid Uniform
19		Commercial Code financing statement or
20		mortgage recorded with the bureau of
21		conveyances that encumbers or otherwise

1		secures the condominium, where the consent
2		is in the sole and absolute discretion of
3		each creditor, at the time of the execution
4		of the commercial property assessed
5		financing assessment contract by the
6		parties; provided that the consents shall be
7		in a form prescribed by the authority; or
8		(B) Agree to the commercial property assessed
9		financing lender's remedies if a default occurs,
10		including foreclosure, in accordance with the
11		terms and conditions of the commercial property
12		assessed financing contract;
13	[ <del>(7)</del> ]	(8) At or before the time a purchaser executes a
14		contract for the sale and purchase of any commercial
15		property for which a [non-ad valorem special tax
16		assessment has been levied] statutory lien has been
17		recorded under this part and has an unpaid balance
18		due, the seller shall give the prospective purchaser a
19		written disclosure statement notifying the prospective
20		ourchaser of the commercial property assessed
21		financing assessment;

1	[ <del>-(8)</del> -]	(9) The term of the commercial property assessed
2		financing assessment contract shall not exceed the
3		useful life of the qualifying improvement being
4		installed or the weighted average useful life of all
5		qualifying improvements being financed if multiple
6		qualifying improvements are being financed, as
7		determined by the authority; [and
8	<del>(9)</del> ]	(10) [Before the execution by the authority of the
9		first commercial property assessed financing
10		assessment contract in a county, the authority shall
11		enter into a contract with the county director of
12		finance or county director of budget and fiscal
13		services to cause the county director to levy and
14		collect any commercial property assessed financing
15		assessment approved and certified by the authority to
16		the director for collection. The county director
17		shall levy] Except as otherwise provided for
18		commercial property assessed financing assessments
19		under chapter 514B, the authority shall bill and
20		collect any approved commercial property assessed
21		financing assessment [approved by the authority].

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4	Each commercial property assessed financing assessment
	that is approved for collection shall be [a non-ad
	valorem special tax assessment and shall be] billed
	and collected in [the same manner as general real
	property taxes are collected and be subject to the
	same] accordance with the commercial property assessed
	financing lender's amortization schedule. The
	authority may charge interest or other fees on
	assessment amounts not paid on a timely basis. The
	authority shall develop guidelines and procedures
	providing for the method of undertaking and financing
	qualifying improvements as well as penalties [and same
	procedure], collection processes, sale, and lien
	priority, [subject to this section,] in the case of
	delinquency as is provided [by general law for the
	default of the payment of real property taxes, unless
	another procedure, including stand-alone billing and
	collection, is agreed upon by the authority and the
	county director. The county director may add to any
	commercial property assessed financing assessment
	reasonable administrative costs as agreed upon by the

1	authority and the county director. in this section.
2	The [county director] authority shall remit any
3	commercial property assessed financing assessments
4	collected, less any reasonable administrative costs
5	[added by the county director, to or on the direction
6	of the authority, for further application by the
7	authority] to pay each commercial property assessed
8	financing lender [and to pay the reasonable
9	administrative costs of the authority] in accordance
10	with each commercial property assessed financing
11	assessment contract. [The county director shall
12	covenant in a contract or instrument, for the
13	benefit of any commercial property assessed financing
14	lender [or bondholder, to], the authority shall
15	commence and diligently pursue to completion the
16	foreclosure of delinquent commercial property assessed
17	financing assessments and any penalty, interest, and
18	costs by advertisement and sale and with the same
19	effect as provided by general law for sales of real
20	property pursuant to [default in payment of property
21	taxes. The covenant] chapter 667 and in accordance

1		with the terms of the commercial property assessed
2		financing contract. Any guidelines and procedures
3		developed pursuant to this paragraph shall specify a
4		deadline for commencement of the foreclosure sale and
5	`	any other terms and conditions the [county director of
6		finance or county director of budget and fiscal
7		services] authority determines reasonable regarding
8		the foreclosure sale. For commercial property
9		assessed financing assessments levied but not paid
10		when due pursuant to a commercial property assessed
11		financing assessment contract, the foreclosure of the
12		lien of the commercial property assessed financing
13		assessment, lien of general real property taxes or any
14		other assessments levied under section 46-80, or any
15		other lien foreclosed, shall not accelerate or
16		extinguish the remaining term of the commercial
17	•	property assessed financing assessment as approved in
18		the commercial property assessed financing assessment
19		contract[-]; and
20	(11)	All moneys collected for assessments for the
21		commercial property assessed financing program,

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1	including any interest accrued and fee revenues
2	collected, shall be deposited in a separate subaccount
3	in the clean energy and energy efficiency revolving
4	loan fund established pursuant to section 196-65.5 and
<b>5</b> ,	expended only for the administration of the commercial
6	property assessed financing program; provided that any
7	surplus moneys remaining at the end of each fiscal
8	year after the payment of expenses of the commercial
9	property assessed financing program shall be
10	transferred and credited to the Hawaii green
11	infrastructure special fund established pursuant to
12	section 196-65 and may be expended for the
13	administration of the commercial property assessed
14	financing program."
15	SECTION 5. Section 196-65.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16	amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:
17	"(e) The authority may establish subaccounts within the
18	fund as necessary[-]; provided that in accordance with section
19	196-64.5(c)(11), the authority shall establish a subaccount
20	within the fund into which shall be deposited all moneys,
21	including any interest accrued and fee revenues, collected as

assessments under the commercial property assessed financing 1 2 program established pursuant to section 196-64.5." 3 SECTION 6. Section 514B-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 4 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows: 5 If there is any unit owner other than a developer, 6 each unit shall be separately taxed and assessed, and no separate tax or assessment [may] shall be rendered against any 7 8 common elements. The laws relating to home exemptions from 9 state property taxes are applicable to individual units, which 10 shall have the benefit of home exemption in those cases where the owner of a single-family dwelling would qualify. Property 11 12 taxes assessed by the State or any county shall be assessed and 13 collected on the individual units and not on the property as a whole. Commercial property assessed financing program 14 15 assessments pursuant to section 196-64.5 may be imposed upon the project, as described by the project's master deed, declaration, 16 and map pursuant to part III of this chapter; provided that a 17 commercial property assessed financing contract is entered into 18 19 by a condominium association with an approved commercial

property assessed financing lender and the Hawaii green

infrastructure authority. Without limitation of the foregoing,

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- 1 each unit and its appurtenant common interest shall be deemed to
- 2 be a "parcel" and shall be subject to separate assessment and
- 3 taxation for all types of taxes authorized by law, including[7]
- 4 but not limited to [7] other non-commercial property assessed
- 5 financing program special assessments."
- 6 SECTION 7. Section 514B-41, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 7 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:
- 8 "(a) The common profits of the property shall be
- 9 distributed among, and the common expenses shall be charged to,
- 10 the unit owners, including the developer, in proportion to the
- 11 common interest appurtenant to their respective units, except as
- 12 otherwise provided in the declaration or bylaws. In a mixed-use
- 13 project containing units for both residential and nonresidential
- 14 use, the charges and distributions may be apportioned in a fair
- 15 and equitable manner as set forth in the declaration. Except as
- 16 otherwise provided in subsection (c) or the declaration or
- 17 bylaws, all limited common element costs and expenses, including
- 18 but not limited to maintenance, repair, replacement, additions,
- 19 and improvements, including capital improvements financed by
- 20 commercial property assessed financing pursuant to section
- 21 196-64.5, shall be charged to the owner or owners of the unit or

- 1 units to which the limited common element is appurtenant in an
- 2 equitable manner as set forth in the declaration."
- 3 SECTION 8. Section 514B-105, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 4 amended to read as follows:
- 5 "§514B-105 Association; limitations on powers. (a) The
- 6 declaration and bylaws [may] shall not impose limitations on the
- 7 power of the association to deal with the developer [which] that
- 8 are more restrictive than the limitations imposed on the power
- 9 of the association to deal with other persons.
- 10 (b) Unless otherwise permitted by the declaration, bylaws,
- 11 or this chapter, an association may adopt rules and regulations
- 12 that affect the use of or behavior in units that may be used for
- 13 residential purposes only to:
- 14 (1) Prevent any use of a unit [which] that violates the
- declaration or bylaws;
- 16 (2) Regulate any behavior in or occupancy of a unit
- 17 [which] that violates the declaration or bylaws or
- 18 unreasonably interferes with the use and enjoyment of
- 19 other units or the common elements by other unit
- 20 owners; or

1	(3) Restrict the leasing of residential units to the
2	extent those rules are reasonably designed to meet
3	underwriting requirements of institutional lenders who
4	regularly lend money secured by first mortgages on
5	units in condominiums or regularly purchase those
6	mortgages.
7	Otherwise, the association [may] shall not regulate any use of
8	or behavior in units by means of the rules and regulations.
9	(c) Any payments made by or on behalf of a unit owner
10	shall first be applied to outstanding common expenses that are
1	assessed to all unit owners in proportion to the common interest
12	appurtenant to their respective units[+], including commercial
13	property assessed financing assessment expenses incurred for
14	improvements financed pursuant to section 196-64.5. Only after
15	[said] the outstanding common expenses have been paid in full
16	may the payments be applied to other charges owed to the
17	association, including assessed charges to the unit such as
18	ground lease rent, utility sub-metering, storage lockers,
19	parking stalls, boat slips, insurance deductibles, and cable.
20	After these charges are paid, other charges, including unpaid
21	late fees, legal fees, fines, and interest, may be assessed in

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- 1 accordance with an application of payment policy adopted by the
- 2 board; provided that if a unit owner has designated that any
- 3 payment is for a specific charge that is not a common expense as
- 4 described in this subsection, the payment may be applied in
- 5 accordance with the unit owner's designation even if common
- 6 expenses remain outstanding.
- 7 (d) No unit owner who requests legal or other information
- 8 from the association, the board, the managing agent, or their
- 9 employees or agents, shall be charged for the reasonable cost of
- 10 providing the information unless the association notifies the
- 11 unit owner that it intends to charge the unit owner for the
- 12 reasonable cost. The association shall notify the unit owner in
- 13 writing at least ten days prior to incurring the reasonable cost
- 14 of providing the information, except that no prior notice shall
- 15 be required to assess the reasonable cost of providing
- 16 information on delinquent assessments or in connection with
- 17 proceedings to enforce the law or the association's governing
- 18 documents.
- 19 After being notified of the reasonable cost of providing
- 20 the information, the unit owner may withdraw the request, in
- 21 writing. A unit owner who withdraws a request for information

- 1 shall not be charged for the reasonable cost of providing the
- 2 information.
- 3 (e) Subject to any approval requirements and spending
- 4 limits contained in the declaration or bylaws, the association
- 5 may authorize the board to borrow money for the repair,
- 6 replacement, maintenance, operation, or administration of the
- 7 common elements and personal property of the project, or the
- 8 making of any additions, alterations, and improvements thereto;
- 9 provided that written notice of the purpose and use of the funds
- 10 is first sent to all unit owners and owners representing fifty
- 11 per cent of the common interest vote or give written consent to
- 12 the borrowing. In connection with the borrowing, including non-
- 13 commercial property assessed financing, the board may grant to
- 14 the lender the right to assess and collect monthly or special
- 15 assessments from the unit owners and to enforce the payment of
- 16 the assessments or other sums by statutory lien and foreclosure
- 17 proceedings. The cost of the borrowing, including, without
- 18 limitation, all principal, interest, commitment fees, and other
- 19 expenses payable with respect to the borrowing or the
- 20 enforcement of the obligations under the borrowing, shall be a
- 21 common expense of the project. For purposes of this section,

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- 1 the financing of insurance premiums by the association within
- 2 the policy period shall not be deemed a loan and no lease shall
- 3 be deemed a loan if it provides that at the end of the lease the
- 4 association may purchase the leased equipment for its fair
- 5 market value.
- **6** (f) For financing assessments <u>imposed upon the project</u>
- 7 under a commercial property assessed financing program pursuant
- 8 to section 196-64.5 and due from the association, the cost of
- 9 the commercial property assessed financing, including all
- 10 principal, interest, commitment fees, servicing fees, and other
- 11 expenses payable with respect to this borrowing or the
- 12 enforcement of the obligations under the borrowing, shall be a
- 13 common expense of the project and the unit owners' proportionate
- 14 share of the financing assessment shall be collected in the same
- 15 manner as common expenses. The written consent of at least
- 16 fifty per cent of all unit owners to finance qualifying
- 17 improvements with commercial property assessed financing shall
- 18 include an acknowledgment that the annual financing assessment
- 19 required to fund debt service on the commercial property
- 20 assessed financing shall be included as part of the
- 21 association's adopted revised budget."

1	SECTION 9. Section 514B-146, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended as follows:
3	1. By amending subsection (a) to read:
4	"(a) All sums assessed by the association but unpaid for
5	the share of the common expenses chargeable to any unit shall
6	constitute a lien on the unit with priority over all other
7	liens, except:
8	(1) Liens for real property taxes and assessments lawfully
9	imposed by governmental authority against the unit;
10	and
11	(2) Except as provided in subsection (j), all sums unpaid
12	on any mortgage of record that was recorded [prior to]
13	before the recordation of a notice of a lien by the
14	association, and costs and expenses including
15	attorneys' fees provided in [such] the mortgages;
16	provided that a lien recorded by an association for unpaid
17	assessments shall expire six years from the date of recordation
18	unless proceedings to enforce the lien are instituted [prior to]
19	before the expiration of the lien; provided further that the
20	expiration of a recorded lien shall in no way affect the
21	association's automatic lien that arises pursuant to this

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- 1 subsection or the declaration or bylaws. Any proceedings to
- 2 enforce an association's lien for any assessment shall be
- 3 instituted within six years after the assessment became due;
- 4 provided that if the owner of a unit subject to a lien of the
- 5 association files a petition for relief under the United States
- 6 Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. §101 et seq.), the period of time for
- 7 instituting proceedings to enforce the association's lien shall
- 8 be tolled until thirty days after the automatic stay of
- 9 proceedings under section 362 of the United States Bankruptcy
- 10 Code (11 U.S.C. §362) is lifted.
- 11 The lien of the association may be foreclosed by action or
- 12 by nonjudicial or power of sale foreclosure, regardless of the
- 13 presence or absence of power of sale language in an
- 14 association's governing documents, by the managing agent or
- 15 board, acting on behalf of the association and in the name of
- 16 the association; provided that no association may exercise the
- 17 nonjudicial or power of sale remedies provided in chapter 667 to
- 18 foreclose a lien against any unit that arises solely from fines,
- 19 penalties, legal fees, or late fees, and the foreclosure of [any
- 20 such] the lien shall be filed in court pursuant to part IA of
- 21 chapter 667.

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- 1 In any [such] foreclosure[7] described in this section, the
- 2 unit owner shall be required to pay a reasonable [rental] rent
- 3 for the unit, if so provided in the bylaws or the law, and the
- 4 plaintiff in the foreclosure shall be entitled to the
- 5 appointment of a receiver to collect the [rental] rent owed by
- 6 the unit owner or any tenant of the unit. If the association is
- 7 the plaintiff, it may request that its managing agent be
- 8 appointed as receiver to collect the rent from the tenant. The
- 9 managing agent or board, acting on behalf of the association and
- 10 in the name of the association, unless prohibited by the
- 11 declaration, may bid on the unit at foreclosure sale, and
- 12 acquire and hold, lease, mortgage, and convey the unit. Action
- 13 to recover a money judgment for unpaid common expenses shall be
- 14 maintainable without foreclosing or waiving the lien securing
- 15 the unpaid common expenses owed."
- 16 2. By amending subsection (1) to read:
- "(1) For purposes of subsections (j) and (k), the
- 18 following definitions shall apply, unless the context requires
- 19 otherwise:
- "Completion" means:

1	(1)	In a nonjudicial power of sale foreclosure, when the
2		affidavit after public sale is recorded pursuant to
3		section 667-33; and
4	(2)	In a judicial foreclosure, when a purchaser is deemed
5		to acquire title pursuant to subsection (b).
6	"Regi	lar monthly common assessments" does not include:
7	(1)	Any other special assessment, except for a special
8		assessment imposed on all units as part of a budget
9		adopted pursuant to section 514B-148[+], including
10		commercial property assessed financing assessments
11		imposed pursuant to section 196-64.5;
12	(2)	Late charges, fines, or penalties;
13	(3)	Interest assessed by the association;
14	(4)	Any lien arising out of the assessment; or
15	(5)	Any fees or costs related to the collection or
16		enforcement of the assessment, including attorneys'
17		fees and court costs."
18	SECT	ION 10. Section 514B-157, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19	amended hi	w amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

1	"(a) All costs and expenses, including reasonable		
2	attorneys' fees, incurred by or on behalf of the association		
3	for:		
4	(1) Collecting any delinquent assessments, including		
5	commercial property assessed financing assessments		
6	imposed pursuant to section 196-64.5, against any		
7	owner's unit;		
8	(2) Foreclosing any lien thereon; or		
9	(3) Enforcing any provision of the declaration, bylaws,		
10	house rules, and this chapter, or the rules of the		
11	real estate commission;		
12	against an owner, occupant, tenant, employee of an owner, or any		
13	other person who may in any manner use the property, shall be		
14	promptly paid on demand to the association by [such] the person		
15	or persons; provided that if the claims upon which the		
16	association takes any action are not substantiated, all costs		
17	and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred by		
18	any [such] applicable person or persons as a result of the		
19	action of the association, shall be promptly paid on demand to		
20_	[such] the person or persons by the association."		

- 1 SECTION 11. Section 667-40, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 2 amended to read as follows:
- 3 "[+]\$667-40[+] Use of power of sale foreclosure in certain
- 4 non-mortgage situations. A power of sale foreclosure under this
- 5 part may be used in certain non-mortgage situations where a law
- 6 or a written document contains, authorizes, permits, or provides
- 7 for a power of sale, a power of sale foreclosure, a power of
- 8 sale remedy, or a nonjudicial foreclosure. These laws or
- 9 written documents are limited to those involving time share
- 10 plans, condominium property regimes, and agreements of sale[+],
- 11 and commercial property assessed financing assessments imposed
- 12 pursuant to section 196-64.5."
- 13 SECTION 12. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 15 , SECTION 13. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

APPROVED this 30th day of May , 2024

Josh Drue

**GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII** 

2024-2965 HB2801 CD1 HMSO

#### THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 1, 2024 Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024.

Mu

Scott K. Saiki Speaker House of Representatives

Mi Li Ille

Brian L. Takeshita

Chief Clerk

House of Representatives

#### THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 1, 2024

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024.

resident of the Senate

Clerk of the Senate