S.C.R. NO. 17

FEB 2 9 2024

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO UTILIZE THE STATE'S RENTAL SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE PREMIUM ASSISTANCE TO HOUSING OWNERS WHO RENT OR LEASE TO QUALIFIED KUPUNA A MORTGAGE PROPERTY WITHIN DESIGNATED LAVA ZONES.

WHEREAS, the eruption of Kilauea on the Big Island over 1 five years ago continues to impact residents living in the lava 2 zones, as yearly homeowners insurance premiums have increased 3 more than six times what they were a number of years ago; and 4 5 WHEREAS, housing in the lava zones was once an affordable 6 option for many residents, but the growing insurance expenses 7 have resulted in higher rents being charged in the area to 8 offset the insurance increases; and 9 10 WHEREAS, over twenty-five percent of older adults in the 11 State are classified as low income; and 12 13 14 WHEREAS, many kupuna often live on a fixed income from 15 pensions or other retirement plans and social security; and 16 17 WHEREAS, many kupuna potentially face homelessness as rents continue to skyrocket; and 18 19 WHEREAS, the high cost of living in the State, fixed income 20 and complex health needs of older adults, rapidly increasing 21 rents, and the declining availability of affordable housing make 22 23 rental assistance for qualifying older adults a necessity; and 24 25 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Public Housing Authority administers the State's Rent Supplement/Rent Subsidy Program to help 26 27 eligible families pay for part of their monthly rent; and 28 WHEREAS, this program should be utilized to help provide 29 homeowners insurance premium assistance to housing owners who 30



S.C.R. NO. 17

rent or lease to qualified kupuna to help reduce their rent 1 costs; now, therefore, 2 3 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second 4 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the 5 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii Public 6 Housing Authority is requested to utilize the State's Rent 7 8 Supplement Program to provide homeowners insurance premium assistance to housing owners who rent or lease to qualified 9 kupuna a mortgaged property located within an area designated as 10 lava zone 1 or lava zone 2, as identified by the United States 11 Geological Survey Lava-Flow Hazard Zone Map, Island of Hawaii; 12 and 13 14 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director 16 of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. 17 18 19 god le 20 OFFERED BY

