

MAR 08 2024

---

# SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO CONSIDER  
UTILIZING FUNDS FOR NON-CONGREGATE HOUSING FOR  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS FOR AFFORDABLE RENTAL  
HOUSING.

1           WHEREAS, the devastating wildfires in Maui have left  
2 thousands of residents displaced from their homes; and  
3

4           WHEREAS, the ongoing chronic housing crisis on Maui created  
5 housing instability and shortages for Maui families; and  
6

7           WHEREAS, an estimated one thousand six hundred renters have  
8 been displaced by the August 2023 Maui wildfires; and  
9

10           WHEREAS, the majority of residents displaced have expressed  
11 a desire to live in an area geographically near to where their  
12 residences were before the wildfires; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, federal emergency housing relief is presently  
15 providing temporary rental assistance to displaced families; and  
16

17           WHEREAS, the development time for affordable rental housing  
18 is anticipated to be five to ten years; and  
19

20           WHEREAS, displaced renters and homeowners will need short-  
21 term housing solutions beyond subsidized rentals while housing  
22 is developed or rebuilt; and  
23

24           WHEREAS, meeting the need for additional affordable rental  
25 housing is critical to ensure adequate support for renters as  
26 federal aid subsidies; and  
27

28           WHEREAS, federal emergency housing relief can be utilized  
29 to create short-term rentals that can be sustained after the  
30 Federal Emergency Management Agency mission ends; now,  
31 therefore,  
32

33           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024,



# S.R. NO. 172

1 that the Federal Emergency Management Agency is urged to  
2 consider utilizing funds for non-congregate housing for  
3 infrastructure and development needs for affordable rental  
4 housing; and

5

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Emergency  
7 Management Agency is urged to provide the State with clear  
8 parameters on the authorized uses of federal financial  
9 assistance; and

10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Emergency  
12 Management Agency is urged to provide a decision-making tree for  
13 federal support actions; and

14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Emergency  
16 Management is requested to transfer to the State post-disaster  
17 mission any public assistance expenditures that will remain; and

18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Emergency  
20 Management Agency is urged to clarify the long-term commitment  
21 for continued Maui wildfire disaster-related support including  
22 housing for displaced residents; and

23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
25 Resolution be transmitted to the Acting Director of Readiness of  
26 the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

27

28

29

OFFERED BY:



