

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1298
H.D. 3
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Housing and Labor and Technology, to which was referred H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 3, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to establish a Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund Program and Government Employee Ninety-Nine Year Leasehold Rent-to-Own Program;
- (2) Establish the Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.



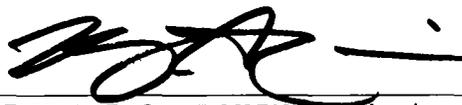
Your Committees find that the State's chronic shortage of housing has led to increasing unaffordability of existing supply, causing higher levels of outmigration of existing and prospective state employees. Presently, the State's lack of affordable rental housing and homeownership opportunities limit the ability for individuals and families to remain in the State to pursue careers with state and county agencies, which are also facing critical vacancy rates. Prioritizing housing options primarily for governor employees can increase recruitment and retention efforts and alleviate the high cost of housing for working families. Therefore, this measure offers homeownership opportunities to stabilize the cost of housing for government employees.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Housing and Labor and Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Housing and Labor
and Technology,


HENRY J.C. AQUINO, Chair


STANLEY CHANG, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
 Committee on Housing
 HOU

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB1298, HD3	HOU/LBT, WAM	3/18/2025

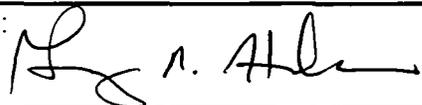
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
CHANG, Stanley (C)	✓			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N. (VC)	✓			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

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 File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Labor and Technology
LBT

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1298, HD3	Committee Referral: HOU/LBT, WAM	Date: 9/18/25
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (C)	X			
LEE, Chris (VC)	X			
IHARA, Jr., Les				X
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.				X
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	3			2

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

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