

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 03 2025RE: S.B. No. 65
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Housing, to which was referred S.B. No. 65
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for the rehabilitation, remodeling, renovation, and repair of housing units.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services, Hawaii Public Housing Authority, and Catholic Charities Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) has a mandate to provide the State's most vulnerable residents with safe housing and equitable living environments, free from discrimination. However, HPHA has an existing capital improvement backlog of approximately \$720 million, which has created a pressing need to ensure public housing units remain available for those who need them most. Further, certain buildings in HPHA's inventory are greater than fifty years old, requiring extensive repairs and maintenance to ensure safe, habitable environments for residents. Because HPHA relies on federal funding for the majority of its operations, which is commensurate with unit occupancy, providing HPHA with adequate



funding will ensure continuity of housing operations and reliable housing for residents.

Your Committee further finds that two hundred fourteen units in HPHA's inventory were rehabilitated and made available to residents last year. However, more work is needed to bring the remaining vacant units into compliance. Presently, there are one hundred thirty-nine vacant units that require repair and maintenance. The average cost to bring each unit into compliance with federal standards is \$73,000, which totals \$10,147,000. The vacant units are located in all four counties and in areas representing twenty out of the twenty-five Senate districts. Your Committee notes that this measure is the fastest, cheapest way to create housing for the State's most vulnerable residents to ensure that they will never have to pay more than thirty percent of their incomes in rent.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an appropriation amount of \$10,147,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 65, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 65, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

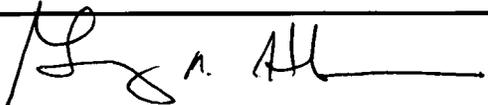
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Housing,


STANLEY CHANG, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Housing
HOU

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 65	Committee Referral: HOU, NAM	Date: 1/23/25		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> 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	4	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes