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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF AN EQUITY CONVERSION MORTGAGE PROGRAM FOR KUPUNA HOMEOWNERS.

WHEREAS, many kupuna in the State face a resource gap where they live on limited fixed incomes while carrying significant medical bills, increasing costs of home ownership, such as maintenance fees and insurance, or other expenses; and

WHEREAS, many kupuna own a home, which commonly is the most significant and valuable financial asset owned by Americans; and

WHEREAS, equity conversion mortgages play a crucial role in helping kupuna to bridge the resource gap by allowing kupuna to tap into their home equity in order to supplement their income, pay off debt, and repair or otherwise modify homes to accommodate physical disabilities; and

WHEREAS, unlike other options, an equity conversion mortgage allows kupuna to access the equity in the home without selling and moving from the home or taking on a traditional loan with a monthly payment obligation that may not be affordable on a limited retirement income; and

WHEREAS, one of the more significant equity conversion mortgage programs is the Federal Housing Administration's Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Program, under which the Federal Housing Administration guarantees reverse mortgages; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a state equity conversion mortgage loan program could provide housing security and relief for some kupuna; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation is requested to establish a task force to study the feasibility of an equity conversion mortgage program for kupuna homeowners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to examine, as part of the study, the Kupuna Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Program as proposed in House Bill No. 1306, Regular Session of 2025, and research the requirements, parameters, and necessary details for implementing the Kupuna Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Program, including eligibility requirements, strong consumer protections, the process for housing transitions once home equities are exhausted, and limits on costs and mortgage numbers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to consist of the following members:

(1) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, or the Chairperson's designee, who is requested to serve as the chairperson of the task force;

(2) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, or the Director's designee;

(3) The Director of Human Services, or the Director's designee; and

(4) The Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, or the Executive Director's designee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation may invite other individuals with relevant knowledge or experience to be members of the task force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including

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any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 6 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Director of Human Services; Executive Director of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

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