

MAR 16 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES' HOMELESS PROGRAMS OFFICE, STATEWIDE OFFICE ON HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING SOLUTIONS, AND HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO CREATE A HOUSING LADDER PROGRAM TO HELP INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES GRADUATE INTO UNSUBSIDIZED HOUSING.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii continues to face a
2 significant shortage of affordable housing, with demand for
3 subsidized housing programs exceeding available units and
4 resources; and

5
6 WHEREAS, thousands of individuals and families remain on
7 waiting lists for public housing, housing vouchers, and other
8 housing assistance programs; and

9
10 WHEREAS, many public housing and housing assistance
11 programs are designed to provide stability and a pathway toward
12 greater self-sufficiency for program participants; and

13
14 WHEREAS, helping participants who have achieved greater
15 financial stability transition into market-rate or
16 non-subsidized housing can create opportunities for additional
17 individuals and families who are currently waiting for
18 assistance; and

19
20 WHEREAS, implementing policies and programs that encourage
21 and support upward mobility by means of a "housing ladder"
22 approach can help ensure that limited public resources are used
23 efficiently while maintaining stability for program
24 participants; and

25
26 WHEREAS, a housing ladder and other "move-up" strategies
27 may include financial counseling, savings incentives,
28 transitional rental assistance, tenant education, workforce
29 training, connection to critical behavioral and physical health
30 supportive services, and partnerships with private housing
31 providers; and
32



1 WHEREAS, coordination among the Department of Human
2 Services' Homeless Programs Office, Statewide Office on
3 Homelessness and Housing Solutions, Hawaii Public Housing
4 Authority, and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development
5 Corporation would help ensure a comprehensive and coordinated
6 strategy across the State's housing programs; now, therefore,
7

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
9 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026,
10 that the Department of Human Services' Homeless Programs Office,
11 Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions, Hawaii
12 Public Housing Authority, and Hawaii Housing Finance and
13 Development Corporation are urged to collaboratively create a
14 housing ladder program to help eligible participants transition
15 from subsidized housing programs into non-subsidized housing;
16 and
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the housing ladder program may
19 include strategies to:
20

- 21 (1) Encourage and support upward housing mobility for
22 program participants;
23
- 24 (2) Provide financial literacy and counseling services;
25
- 26 (3) Create access to workforce training and skill building
27 in occupations that can support financial
28 self-sufficiency;
29
- 30 (4) Identify transitional supports to assist participants
31 in moving into market-rate housing;
32
- 33 (5) Partner with private sector housing providers to
34 expand housing opportunities based on the identified
35 needs within the housing ladder program; and
36
- 37 (6) Ensure that individuals transitioning out of
38 subsidized housing can maintain long-term housing
39 stability; and
40

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the collaborating agencies are
42 urged to solicit feedback from other state departments or



1 agencies that may be able to assist with the housing ladder
2 program; and

3

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the collaborating agencies are
5 requested to submit a report of their findings and
6 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
7 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
8 the Regular Session of 2027; and

9

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the
12 Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Director of the Department of
13 Human Services, Director of the Statewide Office on Homelessness
14 and Housing Solutions, and Executive Director of the Hawaii
15 Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

16

17

18

OFFERED BY: 

