

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1975  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Housing and Health and Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 1975, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO KUPUNA HOUSING,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the sunset for the State Rent Supplement Program for Kupuna; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for the State Rent Supplement Program for Kupuna and for positions to support the program.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Executive Office on Aging, one member of the Kaua'i County Council, Palehua Townhouses Association, Catholic Charities Hawai'i, AARP Hawai'i, Aloha Independent Living Hawaii, LeadingAge Pacific West, and five individuals.

Your Committees find that stable access to safe and affordable housing plays a critical role in supporting the health, well-being, and quality of life for the State's kupuna. In many cases, reducing housing cost burdens can help alleviate financial



stress and contribute to improved mental and physical health outcomes, allowing seniors to age in place with dignity and stability. Act 98, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023 (Act 98), established the Rent Supplement Program for Kupuna to address the adverse effects that high housing costs have on senior residents of the State. However, without further legislative action, Act 98 will repeal on June 30, 2028, leaving many seniors without essential support. Due to the success of the program and to ensure seniors continue to receive housing support, this measure will make the program permanent and increase its effective administration.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

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

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Housing and Health and Human Services that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1975, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1975, H.D. 1, 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  
Health and Human Services,

  
JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, 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:
HB 1975 HD1	HOU   HHS, WAM	03/19/26

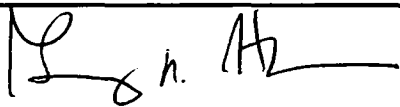
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

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)	/			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	0	0	1

Recommendation:  Adopted      Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

Distribution:     Original     Yellow     Pink  
 File with Committee Report     Committee     Drafting Agency

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Health and Human Services**  
**HHS**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HB 1975 HD1</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HOU/HHS, WAM</b>	Date: <b>3/19/2026</b>		
<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
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K. (VC)	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
KEOHOKALOPE, Jarrett				✓
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink File with Committee Report     Committee     Drafting Agency				

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