



## RESOLUTION

---

URGING THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE TO APPROPRIATE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC HOUSING RENTAL UNITS CURRENTLY OFFLINE ARE RENOVATED TO MEET THE SHORTAGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN HONOLULU.

WHEREAS, a 2014 analysis by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation estimated that more than 20,000 rental units are needed by the State in 2020 and more than half of these units are needed by low-income families; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are more than 10,000 people on the current wait list for public housing; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Public Housing Authority ("HPHA"), which is placed within the Department of Human Services for administrative purposes; is the sole statewide public housing agency for the State of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, HPHA was established to provide safe, decent, and sanitary housing for low-income families and individuals, free from discrimination; and

WHEREAS, HPHA is governed by a Board of Directors representing a cross section of public and private entities and overseeing policy matters of the HPHA; and

WHEREAS, HPHA's portfolio of 85 properties consists of 6,196 units of public housing; and

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2015, a KHON2 TV investigative reporter discovered that within HPHA's inventory of about 6,000 units, 239 units were completely offline for major construction and another 175 units were vacant for minor construction; and

WHEREAS, it was also reported that the number of units currently offline or vacant is considerably less than the 875 units that were empty several years ago before the current Executive Director of HPHA took the job; and

WHEREAS, the HPHA estimates that it will cost \$9.5 million to properly repair the 175 units considered "vacant," which comes out to \$54,000 per unit; and

WHEREAS, this repair estimate does not include additional site improvements that may be needed to meet federal standards, such as repairing parking lots, sidewalks, and community rooms; and



---

## RESOLUTION

---

WHEREAS, in the previous biennium, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$45 million in Fiscal Year 2014 and \$26 million in Fiscal Year 2015 to HPHA to upgrade and renovate public housing facilities; and

WHEREAS, in the last legislative session, lawmakers appropriated \$4.1 million per year for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017 in the State budget to be used for improvements and renovations of public housing facilities, though the HPHA Executive Director testified that the Authority needed \$180 million to begin addressing the \$822 million backlog of public housing repair and maintenance needs over the next 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that as partners in finding solutions to solving the homeless crisis, the State can take immediate steps to address this crisis by not only finding and constructing additional affordable housing units but to repair and maintain the backlog at our existing public housing projects; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority is urged to give the highest priority to completing the renovations and/or repairs of the units currently offline so as to get these units back online and in the housing inventory as soon as possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it urges the Hawaii State Legislature to appropriate sufficient funds to ensure that the public housing rental units currently in disrepair are immediately renovated and/or repaired to meet the acute shortage of affordable housing in Honolulu; and



**RESOLUTION**

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, the Chairman of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority Board of Directors, the President of the State Senate, the Speaker of the State House of Representatives, and the Governor.

INTRODUCED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Councilmembers

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

**OCT 9 2015**

Honolulu, Hawaii

2015 OCT 9 PM 3:23  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII  
CERTIFICATE

**RESOLUTION 15-284**

Introduced: 10/09/15 By: BRANDON ELEFANTE

Committee: PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY  
AND WELFARE

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE TO APPROPRIATE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC HOUSING RENTAL UNITS CURRENTLY OFFLINE ARE RENOVATED TO MEET THE SHORTAGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN HONOLULU.

Voting Legend: \* = Aye w/Reservations

---

10/20/15 PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE CR-388 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION.

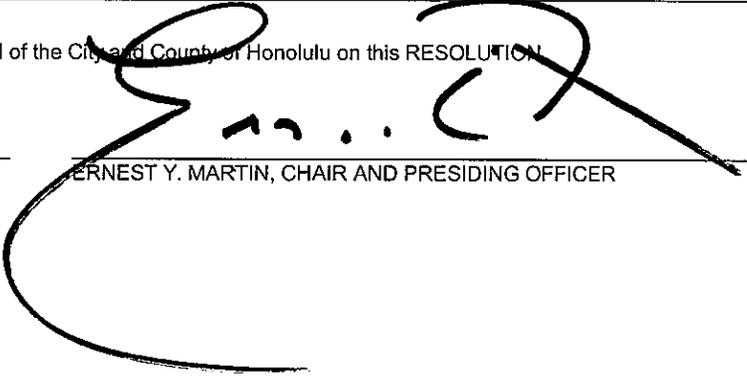
---

11/04/15 COUNCIL CR-388 AND RESOLUTION 15-284 WERE ADOPTED.  
8 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MARTIN, MENOR, OZAWA.  
1 ABSENT: PINE.

---

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER