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Testimony of
Linda L. Smith
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Before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON HOUSING and
WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES**

Wednesday, February 3, 2009, 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 325

H.B. 2526 RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Chairs Cabanilla and Ito, Vice Chairs Chong and Har, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2526; an Administration bill that is based on recommendations from the Affordable Housing Regulatory Barriers Task Force.

The purpose of this bill is to expedite the construction of affordable housing by creating standard timeframes for the issuance of ministerial permits for approved affordable housing projects.

Although there is a process in place that provides an opportunity for government agencies to approve affordable housing project proposals through an expedite track, ministerial permits that are issued subsequent to project approval may take significant amounts of time before they are issued. This bill addresses this delay by creating a standard timeframe to guide government agencies.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill.