
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 356D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
3 to read as follows:

4 **"PART . HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAM**

5 **§356D-A Definitions.** As used in this part:

6 "Participating landlord" means a property owner or property
7 manager who has entered an agreement with the authority to
8 participate in the housing support program and offer rental
9 housing units to eligible individuals or families.

10 "Participating unit" means a rental housing unit that has
11 been designated by a participating landlord for occupancy by an
12 eligible individual or family.

13 **§356D-B Housing support program; established.** (a) There
14 is established within the authority a housing support program
15 that shall provide housing support payments to participating
16 landlords on behalf of persons or families who meet the
17 eligibility requirements provided in section 356D-C.



1 (b) The authority shall establish rules pursuant to
2 chapter 91 for the purpose of implementing this part.

3 **§356D-C Eligibility for housing support payment.** (a) A
4 person or family is eligible for housing support payments if
5 that person or family:

6 (1) Meets the definition of "qualified tenant" under
7 section 356D-153 and does not own personal property
8 and assets in excess of \$10,000; or

9 (2) Is a participant in a housing first program or service
10 established pursuant to section 346-378.

11 (b) The authority shall conduct annual eligibility
12 evaluations of all persons or families who are receiving housing
13 support payments.

14 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, income from
15 other state or federal need-based benefit programs shall not be
16 included in any calculation to determine eligibility for housing
17 support payments.

18 (d) The authority shall evaluate the eligibility of a
19 person or family before making housing benefit payments on
20 behalf of that person or family. The eligibility of a person or



1 family who is receiving housing support payment benefits shall
2 be reevaluated at least once every twelve months.

3 **§356D-D Housing support payments; monthly rates.** (a) The
4 authority shall negotiate monthly housing support payment rates
5 with participating landlords; provided that rates shall not
6 exceed the total of:

7 (1) Sixty per cent of the federal poverty level, divided
8 by twelve and rounding down the quotient, for a family
9 with a number of members equal to the intended
10 occupancy of the participating unit; and

11 (2) The maximum allotment authorized by the federal
12 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for a single
13 individual that is in effect on the first day of July
14 each year.

15 (b) The authority shall make housing support payments to
16 participating landlords on behalf of qualified persons and
17 families who are occupying participating units. The method and
18 frequency of housing support payments shall be specified in the
19 negotiations between the authority and each participating
20 landlord pursuant to this section.



1 **§356D-E Housing support program special fund.** There is
2 established in the state treasury the housing support program
3 special fund to be administered by the authority and into which
4 shall be deposited appropriations made by the legislature to the
5 special fund. Moneys in the special fund shall be used for the
6 purpose of making housing support payments pursuant to this
7 part."

8 SECTION 2. The Hawaii public housing authority shall
9 develop interim rules without regard to chapter 91, Hawaii
10 Revised Statutes, for assisting participants in the housing
11 support program pursuant to section 1 of this Act.

12 SECTION 3. The Hawaii public housing authority may procure
13 case management and counseling services without regard to
14 chapters 103D and 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for assisting
15 participants in the housing support program pursuant to section
16 1 of this Act.

17 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
19 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 to be
20 deposited into the housing support program special fund.



1 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the housing
2 support program special fund the sum of \$ or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
4 housing support program to make housing support payments on
5 behalf of eligible persons and families.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii public
7 housing authority for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.



Report Title:

Housing Support Program; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Rental Housing; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the housing support program to make payments to participating landlords on behalf of eligible persons and families. Establishes eligibility requirements for housing support payments under the program. Appropriates funds for housing support payments. (SD1)

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