
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the biggest expense
2 for any individual or family is housing or shelter. Within the
3 last decade, it has become increasingly difficult for
4 individuals and families to save for a down payment on a home or
5 pay for their mortgage or rent. In 2021, housing markets saw a
6 fifteen per cent increase in the cost for single-family homes
7 and a thirteen per cent increase in the cost for condominiums
8 compared to 2020. The cost of housing in Hawaii has rapidly
9 increased, effectively pricing out local renters and homeowners.
10 Current real estate trends show there is a need to provide more
11 affordable housing.

12 The legislature further finds that the rising cost of
13 housing in the State may disproportionately affect vulnerable
14 populations, such as the elderly, homeless or those struggling
15 to find affordable housing. Vulnerable populations may have
16 fixed incomes or experience continually rising rents that become
17 unmanageable. Safe, affordable housing not only allows



1 individuals and families to live and thrive in Hawaii, it also
2 prevents many individuals and families from experiencing
3 homelessness.

4 The purpose of this Act is to require state agencies to
5 report annually to the governor's coordinator on homelessness
6 information on any vacant state land that could be utilized for
7 the construction of affordable housing.

8 SECTION 2. Each state agency shall submit to the
9 governor's coordinator on homelessness an annual report on any
10 vacant state land suitable for the construction of affordable
11 housing within its jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of any of
12 its attached offices, boards, commissions, or other agencies.

13 SECTION 3. The governor's coordinator on homelessness
14 shall compile the agency reports and submit an annual report of
15 their findings and recommendations, including any proposed
16 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
17 to the convening of each regular session.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
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INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 23 2022



H.B. NO. 1649

Report Title:

Affordable Housing; Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness

Description:

Requires state agencies to report annually to the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness on any vacant state land that could be utilized for construction of affordable housing.

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