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TO: The Honorable Senator Norman Sakamoto, (CHAIR)
The Honorable Senator Michelle Kidani. (VICE CHAIR)
and Members of the Education and Housing Committee

DATE: Friday, April 24, 2009
9:05 a.m. Room 329

RE: HCR-282 URGING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO
INCREASE THE MINIMUM RENT SCHEDULE

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

My name is Fetu Kolio, and I am a community resident of Kalihi-Palama and resident of Hawaii Public Housing, at MAYOR WRIGHT HOMES. I also serve as a Member of the Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board No.#15, and a strong community participant of the Weed & Seed program in my community. I am testifying today in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR-282.

HCR-282 will help produce sufficient revenues for all expenses of management, maintenance, repairs, and improvements on operations to remain self-supporting. To increase the minimum rent for State Public Housing no less than \$250, can help the shortfall.

We need to start somewhere so why not encrease the minimum rent that will help inprove some of the problem. Please pas HCR2 RESOLUTION.

Thank you for hearing HCR-282 and my testimony.

Fetu T. Kolio
MAYOR WRIGHT HOMES
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

HAWAII STATE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATIVE, REGULAR SESSION OF 2009

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND HOUSING

Chair: Norman Sakamoto Vice Chair: Michelle Kidani
And Members of Education and Housing Committee

DATE: Friday, April 24, 2009
TIME: 9:00 am
PLACE: Conference Room 329
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii

In Support of
HCR 282
Relating to
PUBLIC HOUSING

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My name is Dr. Inam Rahman, a resident of Honolulu, Hawaii for the last 15 years. I support the intent of this bill to provide affordable housing that is decent and secure to working people with low income.

A minimal rental requirement provides a win- win situation between tenant and landlord. It encourages working people to strive and better themselves and deters them to become homeless and at the same time provides landlord revenues to continue in maintaining a better living condition.

Our disabled veterans on the other hand who have served and protected us and our country should be given preference of tenancy in the rental units and not let them become homeless as a means of our appreciation to them.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Inam Rahman, MD.

Senate Committee on Education and Housing

Friday, April 24, 2009 at 9:00 am CR 329

In Support of HCR 282-Relating to Public Housing

Aloha Chair Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and members of the Education and Housing committee.

I am Christopher Manabat testifying in support of HCR 282, a bill that will mandate for minimum rent at our public housing projects is useful to help ensure that housing facilities are well kept. With the diminishing federal funding and low state revenues, maintenance of public housing facilities will deteriorate in no time. Minimum contribution by all tenants and an ongoing process to raise the rents will enable landlord to meet expenses as they rise. A collaborative effort by HPHA, residents, and the community will prevent the solvency of rental projects that tax payers and the government let alone cannot do.

There should be flexibility in the selection preference to ensure fairness to those who have been in the wait list for quiet period of time and to prevent populating public housing with homeless people that will defeat the purpose of mixed used concept.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Senate Committee on Education and Housing

Friday, April 24, 2009 at 9:00 am CR 329

In Support of HCR 282-relating to Public Housing

Aloha Chair Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and members of Education and Housing Committee.

I am Flor Martinez, a radio announcer at KNDI radio. I am testifying in support of HCR 282 that mandates minimum contribution by tenants that will provide landlord resources to be used in maintaining housing facilities to be safe, in good condition and will provide dignity to the tenant. Rental income will also assist the housing projects to stabilize. Public housing should serve as a transitional stage for individuals to incentivize them to look for a better job and do better in life.

Tenant selection rules will facilitate the transition of families out of the program and will prevent extended period of time for individuals and families to remain unsheltered and increased exposure to circumstances of the highest risk factors.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Hawaii State Senate

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 9:00am at CR 325

In Support of HCR 282 Relating to Public Housing

Aloha Chair Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and members of Education and Housing Committee.

I am Ilalo Parayno testifying in support of HCR 282, a bill that will mandate for a minimum rent at our public housing projects. In this economic crisis, wherein government can no longer provide for everybody at the expense of tax payers, we all need to pitch in to make the system work. A gradual increase in rent will enable public housing authorities to keep up with increasing maintenance expenses. To improve the living conditions in these projects, equal access to these government assisted rentals should be extended to both working people and the needy. Flexibility in the implementation of selection process with existing tenants so as not to drive these tenants into homelessness will prevent rewarding people for being homeless.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.