

**Harry Kim**  
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March 15, 2019

Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Representative Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair  
Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

Representative Tom Brower, Chair  
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair  
Committee on Housing

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Brower, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Matayoshi, and Committee Members:

**RE: SB 1131, SD2 Relating to Ohana Zones**

Two bills dealing with Ohana Zones are still alive this legislative session. SB 1131, SD2 is the one before you today. The other is a bill passed by the House earlier, HB 257, HD2.

SB 1131, SD2 is positive in that it broadens the scope of the Ohana Zones Pilot Program by increasing the number of zones and extending the implementation period.

But HB 257, HD2 has an added provision that would allow for partnerships on private land, which is critical flexibility that likely would provide an opportunity to expedite the construction of appropriate housing for individuals experiencing homelessness. The Sacred Hearts and Hale Iki emergency housing projects on the Island of Hawai'i are a direct result of two separate government and private sector partnerships that led to the creation of thirty temporary housing solutions for survivors of the recent Kilauea eruptions.

I hope you will add the best features of HB 257, HD2 to a new draft of SB 1131. Increased flexibility would be a positive way of implementing the pilot project and maximizing its potential for success.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim  
MAYOR