

BILL020(25)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 89

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Feb 26, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 1

Name: Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Email: waianaenb569@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 21, 2025 @ 06:06 AM
Testimony: Selected Agenda Item: BILL020(25) RELATING TO FUNDS. Comment: This proposal I believe would also help the 29,000 families on the waitlists of beneficiaries on Dept of Hawaiian Homes Lands. Thank you, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry		
Name: Stephanie Nojima	Email: anakama@wik.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Honolulu Board of REALTORS	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 26, 2025 @ 09:49 AM

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Testimony by Suzanne Young, CEO
Honolulu Board of REALTORS®

Bill 20 (2025)
Relating to Funds

Honolulu City Council
Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.
City Council Chambers

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, and Members of the Council,

The Honolulu Board of Realtors® (HBR), representing over 6,000 members is in support of Bill 20, which establishes a new fund to assist prospective homebuyers.

We extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation for your efforts in advancing down payment assistance initiatives. We support and applaud the Council for recognizing the critical need to help our community achieve homeownership.

While we appreciate these efforts, we also recognize that existing down payment assistance programs face challenges that limit their effectiveness. Issues such as income eligibility thresholds, funding constraints, and administrative hurdles can prevent many aspiring homeowners from accessing these opportunities. We want to work collaboratively with the Council to address these challenges, improve program accessibility, and expand the number of residents who can benefit from these resources in their pursuit of homeownership.

Down payment assistance plays a vital role in making homeownership more accessible for local families, helping residents build stability and generational wealth.

Mahalo for your dedication and commitment to addressing housing affordability. We look forward to continued collaboration to create meaningful solutions that benefit our community.