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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 20, 2014

**‘HAWAII HANDBOOK FOR IMMIGRANTS’ HELPS NEW RESIDENTS
NAVIGATE ISLAND COMMUNITY**

HONOLULU – The Office of Community Services (OCS) today released the newly published Hawaii Handbook for Immigrants, a resource guide for new immigrants to the Aloha State. Available both as a booklet and online, the guide provides important information on emergency food assistance, housing, employment, healthcare, federal and state/local laws, social services, and other resources. The handbook also furnishes helpful tips on the culture and way of life in Hawaii.

“The Hawaii Handbook for Immigrants is a valuable resource for those who are new to our state but are interested in becoming contributing members of our island community, and I commend our Office of Community Services for expediting its production,” Gov. Neil Abercrombie said. “If you look back far enough, all of us in Hawaii arrived from somewhere else. Immigrants have and continue to serve a crucial role in strengthening and revitalizing Hawaii’s workforce. Investing in them benefits all of us by providing a greater foundation for economic stability and growth.”

OCS Executive Director Mila Kaahanui added: “Starting over in a new, unfamiliar place can be very challenging for new immigrants. It means stepping into a new culture and a new way of life, learning about the federal and local laws, being aware of one’s rights and civic responsibilities, knowing where to get information or services, and finding resources and opportunities for economic and social success.”

The Hawaii Handbook for Immigrants is available at <http://labor.hawaii.gov/ocs/>

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