
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL OUTREACH SERVICES TO
HOMELESS CHILDREN IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, approximately fifteen per cent of the homeless
2 population in Hawaii are children; and
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4 WHEREAS, almost one thousand eight hundred children resided
5 in emergency and transitional shelters in Hawaii in 2004-2005;
6 and
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8 WHEREAS, approximately one thousand children ages five
9 through seventeen enrolled in school in Hawaii in 2006 were
10 homeless; and
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12 WHEREAS, homeless children are especially vulnerable to
13 malnutrition, physical abuse, disease, sexual exploitation,
14 illiteracy, and drug abuse; and
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16 WHEREAS, the risks to homeless children become more acute
17 where the child suffers from a disability or has special needs;
18 and
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20 WHEREAS, homeless children frequently lack access to basic
21 needs and services such as food, clothing, shelter, health care,
22 and education; now, therefore,
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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
25 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
26 Session of 2007, that the Department of Human Services is
27 requested to develop programs to provide medical check-ups for
28 homeless children upon arrival at homeless shelters, schedule
29 educational activities within the shelter for homeless children,
30 and provide shelter employees with training to address the
31 special needs of children; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
34 Services is requested to:



- (1) Provide outreach services to homeless children who do not live in shelters;
- (2) Increase services targeted to homeless Filipino children;
- (3) Increase funding to its homeless liaison office that provides assistance to homeless children;
- (4) Provide financial assistance to the Hale Kipa Youth Services Project that serves homeless youth in Waikiki and Urban Honolulu; and
- (5) Increase efforts to provide basic services and assistance to homeless children, including food, shelter, health, and education, and also to address issues that affect homeless children such as abuse, neglect, exploitation, mental illness, drug abuse, and the special needs of children with disabilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services, the Superintendent of Education, and the Chairperson of the Board of Education.

OFFERED BY:

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