

JAN 22 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
SHELTERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State needs to
2 continue to fund emergency domestic violence shelters in order
3 to provide safe havens for women and their children made
4 homeless due to domestic violence. The rate of domestic
5 violence continues to increase, becoming one of the most
6 significant social problems facing the State of Hawaii.
7 According to the statistics provided by the Domestic Violence
8 Clearing House and Legal Hotline, the Honolulu Police
9 Department, the Sex Abuse Treatment Center, and the Hawaii State
10 Coalition Against Domestic Violence, in a population of
11 approximately one million people there is one death per month
12 due to domestic violence. Statewide, shelters serve
13 approximately 1,000 adults and 1,100 children per year.

14 In response to the need to fund emergency domestic violence
15 shelters statewide, state moneys from the general fund provided
16 funding beginning in 2004. The moneys awarded to each of the
17 service areas, Kauai, Oahu: Leeward, Windward and Honolulu,



1 Maui including Lanai, Molokai and the Island of Hawaii (East and
2 West) since 2004 has remained fixed although the cost of
3 conducting business has increased severely in the State. Each
4 of the eight shelters is forced to pay the increased expenses
5 with the award given in 2004. Statewide, the shelters are
6 experiencing financial difficulties.

7 Shelters find that individual consumer needs have increased
8 dramatically since 2004. Families and individuals currently
9 entering shelter placement are affected by an inclusive menu of
10 issues, including substance use and addiction, mental health,
11 child abuse and neglect, homelessness, loss of income, lack of
12 employable skills, lack of parenting skills, and lack of medical
13 and dental care. The needs of the consumer have impacted
14 service delivery. Domestic violence advocates must be
15 thoroughly trained to meet the varying needs of the consumer
16 base so that the consumer may move from shelter placement to a
17 non-abusive living environment. In order for this to be
18 accomplished, additional moneys must be allocated to meet the
19 varying needs. Statewide shelters are finding it more and more
20 difficult to provide a high standard of service that will assist
21 the consumer's move towards stabilization.



1 The legislature finds that without additional funding,
2 statewide emergency domestic violence shelters cannot meet the
3 needs of the community.

4 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for
5 emergency domestic violence shelters.

6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$762,500, or so much
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
9 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
10 2008-2009, for the support of eight statewide emergency domestic
11 violence shelters, as follows in each fiscal year:

12	(1) Windward Oahu	\$160,000
13	(2) Leeward Oahu and Honolulu	\$125,000
14	(3) Molokai	\$62,500
15	(4) Maui	\$115,000
16	(5) Kauai	\$150,000
17	(6) East Hawaii	\$62,500
18	(7) West Hawaii	\$87,500.

19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
20 of human services for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

2

INTRODUCED BY: Trizanne Chun Oakland
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Report Title:

Domestic Violence Shelters; Appropriation

Description:

Makes appropriation for emergency domestic violence shelters.

