
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the homeless and
2 affordable housing crises continue to be two of the State's most
3 significant and challenging social problems.

4 The most recent estimate of the total number of homeless
5 persons in the State is six thousand twenty-nine on any given
6 day. In addition, the Hawaii Homeless Point-in-Time Study of
7 2003 found that over four thousand of these homeless persons are
8 unsheltered. This is indicative of the limited shelter space
9 available in the State.

10 Also troubling is the fact that a staggering thirty-seven
11 per cent of the unsheltered homeless are individuals of Hawaiian
12 or part-Hawaiian ancestry. Equally troubling is the fact that
13 on any given day, there are eight hundred thirty-eight homeless
14 children in the State. None of these numbers reflect the number
15 of people who are considered hidden homeless or those who are
16 at-risk of homelessness.



1 Housing, in general, is a critical issue for many residents
2 in Hawaii, where the costs of homeownership and rental are
3 increasing. The prospect of making high mortgage payments and
4 saving enough money for the downpayment and closing costs needed
5 to buy a home at current market prices is a formidable
6 challenge. Even higher income families must often seek help
7 from relatives to overcome this obstacle. More needs to be done
8 to increase the inventory of and ensure that residents have
9 access to affordable housing as well.

10 To assist in alleviating these problems, the legislature
11 enacted Act 222, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, the Housing
12 Omnibus Act, which placed priority on sheltering the homeless
13 and providing more affordable housing opportunities for Hawaii's
14 citizens. The legislature recognizes the meaningful solutions
15 provided by Act 222, and seeks with this Act, to further
16 ameliorate Hawaii's housing and homeless problems.

17 The purpose of this Act is to repeal the sunset date for
18 the allocation of the conveyance tax to the rental housing trust
19 fund, and provide funding for various public housing and
20 homeless programs.



1 SECTION 2. Act 100, Section 30, Session Laws of Hawaii
2 2006, as amended by Act 222, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 "SECTION 30. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006[+
5 ~~provided that on June 30, 2008, section 21 shall be repealed and~~
6 ~~section 247-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be reenacted in~~
7 ~~the form in which it read on the day before the approval of this~~
8 ~~Act]."~~

9 SECTION 3. (a) The legislature finds that public housing
10 projects are continuing to deteriorate due to a lack of timely
11 maintenance and repair. As a consequence, housing units are in
12 danger of becoming or have already become uninhabitable.

13 Additional repair and maintenance funding is needed to
14 supplement the Hawaii public housing authority's annual
15 recurring repair and maintenance budget. Currently, the public
16 housing authority receives \$1,500,000 annually for repair and
17 maintenance; however, these funds are insufficient to keep
18 public housing units in decent, sanitary, and livable
19 conditions. An additional \$2,000,000 for repair and maintenance
20 is required this year, and for all subsequent years, in order
21 for the authority to satisfactorily maintain these vital housing
22 resources.



1 (b) There is appropriated out of the general revenues of
2 the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much thereof as
3 may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the Hawaii public
4 housing authority to conduct repair and maintenance on public
5 housing projects.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii public
7 housing authority for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 4. The director of finance is authorized to issue
9 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$40,200,000 or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary, and the same sum, or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year
12 2008-2009 for the Hawaii public housing authority to conduct
13 capital improvement projects to repair and renovate public
14 housing.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii public
16 housing authority for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 5. (a) The legislature finds that improved safety
18 measures are needed at public housing projects. While the 2007
19 Hawaii state legislature appropriated general funds for public
20 housing security needs, additional funding is required to
21 sufficiently address the arduous security problems plaguing
22 housing projects. It is the intent of this legislature to



1 continue the work begun in the 2007 regular session by
2 appropriating funds for security in order to protect physical
3 public housing property as well as create a safer environment
4 for public housing tenants and the surrounding community.

5 (b) There is appropriated out of the general revenues of
6 the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much thereof as
7 may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for providing
8 security in public housing projects.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii public
10 housing authority for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$5,300,000 or so much
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to the
14 Hawaii public housing authority for outreach or support
15 services, or both, to unsheltered homeless, at-risk homeless,
16 and those residing in homeless facilities, including emergency
17 shelters, pursuant to the purchase of service agreements under
18 chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes. This appropriation shall
19 be used for the provision of continual operational funds to
20 provide matching funds for shelter plus care grants and
21 supportive housing programs and operational funds for nonprofit
22 agencies to develop affordable housing.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii public
2 housing authority for purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 7. The director of finance is authorized to issue
4 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$32,000,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary, and the same sum, or so much as may
6 be necessary, is appropriated for fiscal year 2008-2009 to the
7 Hawaii public housing authority for homeless facilities,
8 emergency shelters, and transitional shelters, as defined by
9 section 356D-121, Hawaii Revised Statutes, on the islands of
10 Oahu and Hawaii.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii public
12 housing authority for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 8. The appropriations made in sections 3, 4, 5, 6,
14 and 7 of this Act shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year
15 for which the appropriation is made; provided that all
16 appropriations that are unencumbered as of June 30, 2011, shall
17 lapse as of that date into the appropriate fund.

18 SECTION 9. If any provision of this Act, or the
19 application thereof to any person or circumstance is held
20 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
21 applications of the Act, which can be given effect without the



1 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
2 of this Act are severable.

3 SECTION 10. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken.

5 SECTION 11. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008;
6 provided that section 2 shall take effect upon approval.



Report Title:

Housing Omnibus Bill; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for various homeless and housing programs and projects. Repeals sunset date for allocation of conveyance tax to the rental housing trust fund. Provides funding for various public housing and homeless programs. (SD1)

