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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOMELESS PROGRAMS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that homelessness  
2 continues to be one of the State's most significant and  
3 challenging social problems. The number of homeless persons in  
4 the State, estimated to be approximately six thousand on any  
5 given day, is indicative of the limited shelter space available.

6           The legislature further finds that new and innovative  
7 solutions are needed to address the homelessness crisis.  
8 Oregon, for example, has adopted laws that authorize political  
9 subdivisions to allow religious institutions to offer overnight  
10 camping space for homeless persons living in vehicles.

11 Similarly, Santa Barbara, California, has instituted a program  
12 that allows private organizations to use county-owned parking  
13 lots to provide overnight sleeping space for homeless persons  
14 with vehicles.

15           The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
16 human services, in consultation with the counties and private  
17 homeless assistance programs, to develop temporary nighttime  
18 parking lots to provide safe overnight locations for homeless



1 persons who would otherwise sleep in their vehicles on private  
2 or public property. It is the legislature's intent that this  
3 program supplement existing policies and initiatives regarding  
4 the State's homeless population.

5 SECTION 2. Section 346-375, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 "[+]§346-375[+] Temporary emergency shelter[-]; temporary  
8 nighttime parking lots. (a) In addition to any other duties  
9 prescribed by law, the department shall develop, in consultation  
10 with the four counties, a procedure for identifying locations  
11 that shall be used for temporary emergency shelters for homeless  
12 individuals and families. The department shall actively partner  
13 with and monitor the efforts of the counties.

14 (b) Each county shall be responsible for partnering with  
15 nonprofit organizations to locate, designate, and maintain the  
16 areas that shall be used for temporary emergency shelters. The  
17 designated locations may include private, county, state, and  
18 federal lands.

19 (c) The department, in consultation with the mayor of each  
20 of the four counties and any interested public or private  
21 homeless assistance programs, shall develop temporary nighttime  
22 parking lots in each county to provide safe overnight locations



1 for homeless individuals who would otherwise sleep during the  
 2 night in their motor vehicles parked on public or private roads  
 3 or property. Any designated temporary nighttime parking lot  
 4 under this subsection shall admit homeless individuals and their  
 5 motor vehicles beginning at 7:00 p.m. each day and shall require  
 6 all homeless individuals and their motor vehicles to exit the  
 7 parking lot at 6:00 a.m. the following morning to accommodate  
 8 regular public parking. The department shall adopt rules in  
 9 accordance with chapter 91 to implement this subsection,  
 10 including, with regard to the use of these temporary nighttime  
 11 parking lots:

- 12 (1) Procedures to screen potential homeless individuals;
- 13 (2) Prohibition of alcohol or drug use; and
- 14 (3) Outreach, job counseling, and health care services to
- 15 homeless individuals."

16 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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**Report Title:**

Homeless; Temporary Nighttime Shelter Parking Lots

**Description:**

Requires department of human services, in consultation with the counties and any interested private homeless assistance programs, to develop temporary nighttime parking lots to provide safe overnight locations for homeless individuals who would otherwise sleep in their motor vehicles on public or private roads or property.

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