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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER AGENCIES OF THE STATE AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO DESIGNATE GOVERNMENT PARKING LOTS FOR USE AT NIGHT BY THE HOMELESS WHO OWN VEHICLES AND SLEEP IN THEIR VEHICLES.

1           WHEREAS, as a result of the depressed economy, in the last  
2 few years the State of Hawaii and the City and County of  
3 Honolulu have experienced increasing numbers of homeless persons  
4 in Hawaii; and

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6           WHEREAS, while homelessness is an issue that cuts across  
7 cultural lines, the primary common denominator in the plight of  
8 the homeless is the lack of affordable housing; and

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10          WHEREAS, there are many circumstances that drive people out  
11 of their homes, such as substance abuse, serious health  
12 problems, mental health conditions, being a war veteran, aging  
13 out of the foster care system, in-migration from the mainland,  
14 and inability to afford rent; and

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16          WHEREAS, according to the Homeless Service Utilization  
17 Report prepared by the Center on the Family at the University of  
18 Hawaii and the Homeless Programs Office of the Department of  
19 Human Services, for 2010 there were 9,781 homeless persons on  
20 Oahu who received City and County of Honolulu services and  
21 13,886 statewide who received related services; and

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23          WHEREAS, the actual number of homeless persons is higher  
24 than these unofficial counts, as providers of homeless services  
25 who do not receive state funding are not required to report the  
26 numbers of their clients; and

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28          WHEREAS, children and youth comprise thirty-five percent of  
29 the homeless population who live in shelters; and  
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1           WHEREAS, among those who live in shelters, forty-two  
2 percent have children, and of these, seventy-six percent are  
3 families led by their mothers; and  
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5           WHEREAS, thirty-five percent of those who live in shelters  
6 have been homeless between one and eleven months; and  
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8           WHEREAS, many homeless persons sleep in their cars wherever  
9 they can find a safe place to park their car; and  
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11           WHEREAS, state and municipal parking lots are largely empty  
12 during night hours, the time when the homeless need a place to  
13 sleep; now, therefore,  
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15           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the  
17 House of Representatives concurring, that departments and other  
18 agencies of the State and the City and County of Honolulu are  
19 requested to designate government parking lots for use by  
20 homeless persons who own their own vehicles and sleep in the  
21 vehicles, between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.; and  
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23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the parking lot at the Aloha  
24 Stadium be designated for use between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. by  
25 homeless persons who own their own vehicles; and  
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27           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that toilet facilities and security  
28 be provided by the State and the City and County of Honolulu, or  
29 other stakeholders, at designated sites between 10 p.m. and  
30 6 a.m.; and  
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32           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Mayor of  
34 the City and County of Honolulu, and each department head of the  
35 State and the City and County of Honolulu.

