
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that homelessness has
2 been increasing rapidly in Hawaii and that the State has opened
3 several new shelters. In spite of efforts by government and
4 nonprofit organizations to provide overnight shelter to homeless
5 persons, there are still many homeless individuals who sleep in
6 public parks, along sidewalks, and other areas.

7 The legislature further finds that native Hawaiians
8 constitute a substantial percentage of the homeless population
9 in Hawaii. In fact, nearly forty per cent of the homeless
10 population is native Hawaiian. Many of these individuals choose
11 not to use homeless shelters because their lifestyles conflict
12 with shelter rules.

13 The purpose of this Act is to address the disproportionate
14 number of native Hawaiians among the State's homeless by
15 requiring the office of Hawaiian affairs to develop a pilot
16 program to establish kanaka villages for homeless native
17 Hawaiians.



1 SECTION 2. (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the
2 contrary, the office of Hawaiian affairs shall develop and
3 implement a pilot program to establish kanaka villages on every
4 island for native Hawaiians who are homeless. The office of
5 Hawaiian affairs shall:

6 (1) Collaborate with the department of Hawaiian home lands
7 and the Hawaii public housing authority to develop and
8 implement the program;

9 (2) Designate areas in the State on which to establish the
10 kanaka villages; and

11 (3) Establish kanaka villages on Hawaiian home lands.

12 (b) For the purposes of this Act, "kanaka villages" mean
13 communities where native Hawaiians who are homeless may live in
14 tents and subsist off the land using traditional Hawaiian
15 methods of sustainability.

16 SECTION 3. The office of Hawaiian affairs, in consultation
17 with the department of Hawaiian home lands and the Hawaii public
18 housing authority, shall report to the legislature, no later
19 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
20 of 2012, on actions taken on the pilot program. The report



1 shall include any pertinent information, recommendations, and
2 necessary proposed legislation.

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



Report Title:

DHHL; OHA; Homeless; Pilot Program; Kanaka Village

Description:

Requires the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to develop a pilot program to establish kanaka villages for homeless native Hawaiians. Requires the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to work collaboratively and in consultation with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Hawaii Public Housing Authority on the pilot program. (HB1489 HD2)

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