

JAN 20 2012

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HOMELESS.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) The homeless programs office of the
2 department of human services shall establish designated safe
3 areas in various locations throughout the State for homeless
4 persons to reside until permanent housing becomes available.
5 The designated safe areas shall provide clean eating areas,
6 showers, toilets, and laundry facilities.

7 (b) The homeless programs office shall establish rules and
8 a code of conduct for individuals, couples, and families
9 residing in the designated safe areas. The office shall have
10 the authority to take appropriate action should a homeless
11 individual, couple, or family not comply with the rules or
12 participate in any illegal activity while residing in the
13 designated safe areas. The office may establish a minimum fee
14 to live in the designated safe areas; provided that any fees
15 collected shall be used to offset expenses associated with the
16 establishment and maintenance of the designated safe areas.

17 (c) The homeless programs office shall partner with
18 community and nonprofit organizations in good standing with the



1 State to provide homeless support services for homeless persons
2 who reside in the designated safe areas. The office shall
3 coordinate with state and county law enforcement officials to
4 establish minimal security for the safety of individuals in the
5 designated safe areas.

6 (d) The department of human services shall adopt rules
7 pursuant to chapter 91 for purposes of implementing this Act.

8 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
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S.B. NO. 2594

Report Title:

Homeless; Homeless Programs Office; Designated Safe Areas; Keiki Caucus

Description:

Requires the homeless programs office of the department of human services to establish designated safe areas for homeless persons to live until permanent housing becomes available. Requires the homeless programs office to establish rules and a code of conduct for the designated safe areas; requires partnership with nonprofit and community service organizations and coordination with state and county law enforcement officials for the safety of individuals residing in the designated safe areas.

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