

HB 70

HD2, SD1

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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March 30, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 70, H.D. 2, S. D. 1 – RELATING TO THE HOMELESS**

Hearing: Wednesday, March 30, 2011; 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of H.B. 70, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, is to establish a Return-to-home Program to assist eligible homeless individuals to return to their home state if there is a support network available and able to receive the individuals. Appropriates general funds and is effective July 1, 2030.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services supports the intent of this bill but with reservations because of the cost implications generated by this proposal and the impact it may have on the priorities in the Executive Biennium Budget.

To effectively implement the proposed Return-to-home Program, the homeless individual must be willing to return, with family and acquaintances willing to accept the individual. With the high percentage of homeless who have been in the State for 12 months or less (12% of the sheltered and 14% of the unsheltered), a program that

can help homeless persons and families return to the support network in their home state will reduce the burden on the State's resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.