
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

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

1 **PART I**

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that homelessness
3 continues to be one of the State's most significant and
4 challenging social problems. The legislature further finds that
5 according to a recent report, fourteen thousand two hundred
6 homeless individuals were served through shelter and outreach
7 programs in fiscal year 2011. Of these individuals, nine
8 thousand seven hundred eighty-one resided in the city and county
9 of Honolulu. The legislature also finds that homeless service
10 providers estimate that six thousand homeless people in the
11 State need shelter each night.

12 The legislature additionally finds that homelessness is a
13 complex issue that requires continuous resources and coordinated
14 efforts at all levels. The legislature also finds that homeless
15 persons face a myriad of issues, including mental illness,
16 substance abuse, loss of employment and income, and lack of
17 affordable housing. Appropriate funding for programs and
18 services tailored to address these issues is essential.



1 The purpose of this part is to better assist individuals
2 facing or experiencing homelessness by funding various homeless
3 and housing programs.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and
7 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
8 year 2014-2015 for the homeless programs office of the
9 department of human services to assist homeless and at-risk
10 homeless individuals and families with housing placement,
11 health, education, employment, and other support services.

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
13 of human services for the purposes of this part.

14 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and
17 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
18 year 2014-2015 for the rental housing trust fund.

19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
20 housing finance and development corporation for the purposes of
21 this part.



1 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and
4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
5 year 2014-2015 for substance abuse treatment and mental health
6 support services for individuals who are homeless or at risk of
7 becoming homeless.

8 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
9 of health for the purposes of this part.

10 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and
13 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
14 year 2014-2015 for clean and sober housing support services to
15 be administered by the alcohol and drug abuse division of the
16 department of health.

17 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
18 of health for the purposes of this part.

19 PART II

20 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much
22 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the



1 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
2 2014-2015 for a rental assistance program, also known as a
3 shallow subsidy program, for homeless working individuals or
4 families who are ready to rent permanent housing to obtain and
5 maintain permanent housing; provided that the subsidies shall be
6 available via participation in workforce development programs or
7 other programs that provide support to workers to increase self-
8 sufficiency; provided further that the maximum subsidy shall be
9 \$300 per month after households pay a minimum of forty per cent
10 of their adjusted income for rent.

11 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
12 public housing authority for the purposes of this part.

13 **PART III**

14 SECTION 7. The legislature finds that housing first
15 programs are a collaborative effort between the department of
16 human services and the United States Department of Housing and
17 Urban Development that provides housing and support services for
18 chronically homeless individuals, including those who have an
19 addiction or mental illness, or both. The principles of housing
20 first programs include:



- 1 (1) Moving chronically homeless individuals into housing
- 2 directly from streets and the shelters without a
- 3 precondition of accepting or complying with treatment;
- 4 (2) Providing robust support services for program
- 5 participants that are predicated on assertive
- 6 engagement rather than coercion;
- 7 (3) Granting chronically homeless individuals priority as
- 8 program participants in housing first programs;
- 9 (4) Embracing a harm-reduction approach to addictions
- 10 rather than mandating abstinence while supporting
- 11 program participant commitments to recovery; and
- 12 (5) Providing program participants with leases and tenant
- 13 protections as provided by law.

14 The housing first programs in the State closely resemble

15 the requirements of the United States Housing and Urban

16 Development shelter plus care program and the Veterans

17 Administration veteran's assisted supportive housing voucher

18 program for homeless veterans. In its December 2011 report to

19 the legislature pursuant to section 346-378, Hawaii Revised

20 Statutes, the department of human services reported that the

21 State has six hundred fifty-eight permanent housing placements



1 plus support services through the shelter plus care and
2 veteran's assisted supportive housing voucher programs.

3 The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to the
4 department of human services to support the State's housing
5 first programs in assisting Hawaii's chronically homeless who
6 are often the most vulnerable, most visible, and most difficult
7 to serve.

8 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the
11 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
12 2014-2015 to be deposited to the credit of the housing first
13 special fund under section 346-377, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for
14 the department of human services to continue to administer
15 housing first programs for chronically homeless individuals in
16 the State.

17 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
18 of human services for the purposes of this part.

19 **PART IV**

20 SECTION 9. The legislature finds that the purpose of the
21 United States Housing and Urban Development's homelessness
22 prevention and rapid re-housing program was to provide



1 economically distressed households and individuals with
2 financial and other assistance to prevent them from becoming
3 homeless and help those who are experiencing homelessness to be
4 quickly re-housed and stabilized. The funds under this program
5 were intended to target individuals and families who would be
6 homeless but for this assistance.

7 The department of human services administered the
8 homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing program to provide
9 homeless prevention and housing assistance to all eligible
10 individuals and households who apply through contracted
11 organizations. The funds from the program provided for a
12 variety of assistance, including short-term or medium-term
13 rental assistance and housing relocation, and stabilization
14 services, such as mediation, security or utility deposits,
15 utility payments, moving cost assistance, and case management.

16 The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to the
17 department of human services to once again provide homelessness
18 prevention and rapid re-housing assistance to all eligible
19 individuals and households.

20 SECTION 10. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much
22 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the



1 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
2 2014-2015 for the homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing
3 program.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
5 of human services for the purposes of this part.

6 **PART V**

7 SECTION 11. There is appropriated out of the rental
8 housing trust fund established in section 201H-202, Hawaii
9 Revised Statutes, the sum of \$30,000,000 or so much thereof as
10 may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the same sum or
11 so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015
12 for uses specified in section 201H-202, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

13 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
14 housing finance and development corporation for the purposes of
15 this part.

16 **PART VI**

17 SECTION 12. The shelter plus care program of the United
18 States Department of Housing and Urban Development provides
19 rental assistance in connection with supportive services. The
20 program provides a variety of permanent housing choices,
21 accompanied by a range of supportive services funded through
22 other sources. The program assists hard-to-serve homeless



1 individuals with disabilities and their families. These
2 individuals primarily include those with serious mental illness,
3 chronic problems with alcohol and drugs, and HIV, AIDS, or
4 related diseases.

5 There are four components to the shelter plus care program:
6 single room occupancy component – moderate rehabilitation for
7 single-room occupancy dwellings; sponsor-based rental assistance
8 component; project-based rental assistance component; and
9 tenant-based rental assistance component. Under all components,
10 supportive services must be available to meet the needs of
11 participants. Similar to many other federal programs, the
12 shelter plus care program has a match requirement. Applicants
13 must match the aggregate amount of shelter plus care rental
14 assistance with supportive services. This ensures that
15 appropriate and timely services will be available to meet the
16 needs of individual participants.

17 The purpose of this part is to provide matching funds for
18 the shelter plus care program.

19 SECTION 13. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000 or so much
21 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the
22 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year



1 2014-2015 for matching funds for the shelter plus care program
2 of the United States Department of Housing and Urban
3 Development.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
5 of human services for the purposes of this part.

6 PART VII

7 SECTION 14. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Mel Carrall

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Report Title:

Homelessness; Housing; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates unspecified funds to the homeless programs office of the department of human services and the rental housing trust fund. Appropriates unspecified funds to the department of health for substance abuse treatment, mental health support services, and clean and sober housing services, and to the department of human services for matching funds for shelter plus care grants. Appropriates funds for a rental assistance program, also known as a shallow subsidy program. Appropriates funds to the Hawaii public housing authority to continue to administer housing first programs for chronically homeless individuals and to reestablish the homeless prevention and rapid re-housing program. Appropriates funds out of the rental housing trust fund. Appropriates matching funds for the federal shelter plus care program to provide rental assistance in connection with supportive services.

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