

FEB 05 2013

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

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

**PART I**

1  
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. The director of finance is authorized to issue  
15 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$                    or so much  
16 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof  
17 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2013-2014  
18 for the rental housing trust fund.

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



1 SECTION 4. The director of finance is authorized to issue  
2 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$ or so much  
3 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof  
4 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2014-2015  
5 for the rental housing trust fund.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
7 housing finance and development corporation for the purposes of  
8 this part.

9 SECTION 5. The appropriations made for the rental housing  
10 trust fund authorized by sections 3 and 4 of this Act shall not  
11 lapse at the end of the fiscal biennium for which the  
12 appropriations are made; provided that all moneys from the  
13 appropriations unencumbered as of June 30, 2016, shall lapse as  
14 of that date.

15 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
17 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and  
18 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
19 year 2014-2015 for substance abuse treatment and mental health  
20 support services for individuals who are homeless or at risk of  
21 becoming homeless.



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

3 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and  
6 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
7 year 2014-2015 for clean and sober housing support services to  
8 be administered by the alcohol and drug abuse division of the  
9 department of health.

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

12 **PART II**

13 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general  
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much  
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the  
16 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
17 2014-2015 for a rental assistance program, also known as a  
18 shallow subsidy program, for homeless working individuals or  
19 families who are ready to rent permanent housing to obtain and  
20 maintain permanent housing; provided that the subsidies shall be  
21 available via participation in workforce development programs or  
22 other programs that provide support to workers to increase self-



1 sufficiency; provided further that the maximum subsidy shall be  
2 \$300 per month after households pay a minimum of forty per cent  
3 of their adjusted income for rent.

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

6 **PART III**

7 SECTION 9. The legislature finds that housing first  
8 programs are a collaborative effort between the department of  
9 human services and the United States Department of Housing and  
10 Urban Development that provides housing and support services for  
11 chronically homeless individuals, including those who have an  
12 addiction or mental illness, or both. The principles of housing  
13 first programs include:

- 14 (1) Moving chronically homeless individuals into housing  
15 directly from streets and the shelters without a  
16 precondition of accepting or complying with treatment;
- 17 (2) Providing robust support services for program  
18 participants that are predicated on assertive  
19 engagement rather than coercion;
- 20 (3) Granting chronically homeless individuals priority as  
21 program participants in housing first programs;



1 (4) Embracing a harm-reduction approach to addictions  
2 rather than mandating abstinence while supporting  
3 program participant commitments to recovery; and

4 (5) Providing program participants with leases and tenant  
5 protections as provided by law.

6 The housing first programs in the State closely resemble  
7 the requirements of the United States Housing and Urban  
8 Development shelter plus care program and the Veterans  
9 Administration veteran's assisted supportive housing voucher  
10 program for homeless veterans. In its December 2011 report to  
11 the legislature pursuant to section 346-378, Hawaii Revised  
12 Statutes, the department of human services reported that the  
13 State has six hundred fifty-eight permanent housing placements  
14 plus support services through the shelter plus care and  
15 veteran's assisted supportive housing voucher programs.

16 The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to the  
17 department of human services to support the State's housing  
18 first programs in assisting Hawaii's chronically homeless who  
19 are often the most vulnerable, most visible, and most difficult  
20 to serve.

21 SECTION 10. There is appropriated out of the general  
22 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the  
2 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
3 2014-2015 to be deposited to the credit of the housing first  
4 special fund under section 346-377, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for  
5 the department of human services to continue to administer  
6 housing first programs for chronically homeless individuals in  
7 the State.

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

10 **PART IV**

11 SECTION 11. The legislature finds that the purpose of the  
12 United States Housing and Urban Development's homelessness  
13 prevention and rapid re-housing program was to provide  
14 economically distressed households and individuals with  
15 financial and other assistance to prevent them from becoming  
16 homeless and help those who are experiencing homelessness to be  
17 quickly re-housed and stabilized. The funds under this program  
18 were intended to target individuals and families who would be  
19 homeless but for this assistance.

20 The department of human services administered the  
21 homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing program to provide  
22 homeless prevention and housing assistance to all eligible



1 individuals and households who apply through contracted  
2 organizations. The funds from the program provided for a  
3 variety of assistance, including short-term or medium-term  
4 rental assistance and housing relocation, and stabilization  
5 services, such as mediation, security or utility deposits,  
6 utility payments, moving cost assistance, and case management.

7 The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to the  
8 department of human services to once again provide homelessness  
9 prevention and rapid re-housing assistance to all eligible  
10 individuals and households.

11 SECTION 12. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much  
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the  
14 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
15 2014-2015 for the homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing  
16 program.

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

19 **PART V**

20 SECTION 13. There is appropriated out of the rental  
21 housing trust fund established in section 201H-202, Hawaii  
22 Revised Statutes, the sum of \$30,000,000 or so much thereof as





1 may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the same sum or  
2 so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015  
3 for uses specified in section 201H-202, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
5 housing finance and development corporation for the purposes of  
6 this part.

7 **PART VI**

8 SECTION 14. The shelter plus care program of the United  
9 States Department of Housing and Urban Development provides  
10 rental assistance in connection with supportive services. The  
11 program provides a variety of permanent housing choices,  
12 accompanied by a range of supportive services funded through  
13 other sources. The program assists hard-to-serve homeless  
14 individuals with disabilities and their families. These  
15 individuals primarily include those with serious mental illness,  
16 chronic problems with alcohol and drugs, and HIV, AIDS, or  
17 related diseases.

18 There are four components to the shelter plus care program:  
19 single room occupancy component – moderate rehabilitation for  
20 single-room occupancy dwellings; sponsor-based rental assistance  
21 component; project-based rental assistance component; and  
22 tenant-based rental assistance component. Under all components,



1 supportive services must be available to meet the needs of  
2 participants. Similar to many other federal programs, the  
3 shelter plus care program has a match requirement. Applicants  
4 must match the aggregate amount of shelter plus care rental  
5 assistance with supportive services. This ensures that  
6 appropriate and timely services will be available to meet the  
7 needs of individual participants.

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

10 SECTION 15. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000 or so much  
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the  
13 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
14 2014-2015 for matching funds for the shelter plus care program  
15 of the United States Department of Housing and Urban  
16 Development.

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

19 **PART VII**

20 SECTION 16. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

21



**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. 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. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

