
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 a 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 for fiscal biennium 2013-2015 and
17 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary is
18 appropriated for fiscal biennium 2013-2015 for deposit into the
19 rental housing trust fund established in section 201H-202,
20 Hawaii Revised Statutes.

21 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the rental housing
22 trust fund established in section 201H-202, Hawaii Revised



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

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

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

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

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

1 SECTION 7. 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 clean and sober housing support services to
6 be administered by the alcohol and drug abuse division of the
7 department of health.

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

10 **PART II**

11 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ 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 a rental assistance program, also known as a
16 shallow subsidy program, for homeless working individuals and
17 their families who are ready to rent permanent housing to obtain
18 and maintain permanent housing; provided that:

19 (1) The maximum subsidy shall be \$300 per month; provided
20 that in order to qualify for the subsidy, a household
21 shall pay a minimum of forty per cent of their
22 adjusted gross income for rent; and



- 1 (2) Providing robust support services for program
- 2 participants that are predicated on assertive
- 3 engagement rather than coercion;
- 4 (3) Granting chronically homeless individuals priority as
- 5 program participants in housing first programs;
- 6 (4) Embracing a harm-reduction approach to addictions
- 7 rather than mandating abstinence while supporting
- 8 program participant commitments to recovery; and
- 9 (5) Providing program participants with leases and tenant
- 10 protections as provided by law.

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

21 The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to the
22 department of human services to support the State's housing



1 first programs in assisting Hawaii's chronically homeless who
2 are often the most vulnerable, most visible, and most difficult
3 to serve.

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

13 SECTION 11. There is appropriated out of the housing first
14 special fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be
15 necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the same sum or so much
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the
17 department of human services to continue to administer housing
18 first programs for chronically homeless individuals in the
19 State.

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



1 **PART IV**

2 SECTION 12. The legislature finds that the purpose of the
3 United States Housing and Urban Development's homelessness
4 prevention and rapid re-housing program was to provide
5 economically distressed households and individuals with
6 financial and other assistance to prevent them from becoming
7 homeless and help those who are experiencing homelessness to be
8 quickly re-housed and stabilized. The funds under this program
9 were intended to target individuals and families who would be
10 homeless but for this assistance.

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

20 The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to the
21 department of human services to once again provide homelessness



1 prevention and rapid re-housing assistance to all eligible
2 individuals and households.

3 SECTION 13. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2014-2015 for the homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing
8 program.

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

11 **PART V**

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



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

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

15 SECTION 15. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the
18 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
19 2014-2015 for matching funds for the shelter plus care program
20 of the United States Department of Housing and Urban
21 Development.



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. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD2)

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