
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 rental housing revolving fund is
3 established under section 201H-202, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to
4 provide loans or grants for the development, pre-development,
5 construction, acquisition, preservation, and substantial
6 rehabilitation of rental housing units.

7 The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to the
8 rental housing revolving fund.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 to be
12 deposited into the rental housing revolving fund.

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the rental housing
14 revolving fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may
15 be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the purposes
16 specified in section 201H-202, Hawaii Revised Statutes.



- 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 Housing first is a nationally recognized best practice and
7 has been proven to be an effective approach to helping people
8 experiencing chronic homelessness get off of the streets in
9 several cities. In Portland, Oregon, the housing first program
10 helped reduce the number of chronically homeless people sleeping
11 outside by seventy per cent. In Los Angeles, California, for
12 each chronically homeless person placed in housing first, Los
13 Angeles saved \$80,000 over two years. Similar results in
14 Denver, Colorado; Quincy, Massachusetts; and Portland, Maine
15 show that housing first is effective in reducing chronic
16 homelessness. Currently, the housing first program only serves
17 the island of Oahu, despite the needs of individuals on
18 neighboring islands.

19 The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to the
20 department of human services to support the State's housing
21 first programs in assisting the Hawaii residents living on the



1 neighbor islands who are chronically homeless and who are often
2 the most vulnerable, most visible, and most difficult to serve.

3 SECTION 5. 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 2016-2017 for
6 continued implementation of the State's housing first program
7 and expansion of the program to the neighbor islands to assist
8 residents who are chronically homeless.

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

11 PART III

12 SECTION 6. The legislature finds that the Hawaii public
13 housing authority is the sole statewide public housing agency of
14 the State. The Hawaii public housing authority's portfolio of
15 eighty-five properties comprises 6,195 units that serve over
16 6,100 families, or more than 20,000 individuals.

17 The Hawaii public housing authority's aging housing stock
18 continues to have an extensive capital need that is underfunded
19 by the United States Department of Housing and Urban
20 Development. Additional funding is needed to modernize, repair,
21 and maintain many of the State's public housing units.



Report Title:

Housing Omnibus; Appropriation

Description:

Makes various appropriations for various housing programs.
Takes effect 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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