

HB1195 HD1

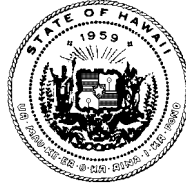
Measure Title: RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS.

Report Title: Homelessness; Appropriations

Description: Appropriates funds to the Department of Health and Department of Human Services, including the Office of Youth Services, to provide homeless outreach services. (HB1195 HD1)

Current Referral: HMS, JDL/WAM

Introducer(s): MORIKAWA, BROWER, CREAGAN, EVANS, KOBAYASHI, MCKELVEY, MIZUNO, NAKASHIMA, ONISHI, TAKAYAMA, TAKUMI, TOKIOKA, WOODSON



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 17, 2017

TO: The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **HB1195 HD1– RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

Hearing: Friday, March 17, 2017, 2:50 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT’S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this bill to provide funding to address the State’s homeless crisis and the amendments made by the House Human Services and Health Committees. DHS appreciates the clarification of which agencies and sections will be required to implement this measure. DHS still has concerns that the measure may adversely affect the Governor’s Executive Budget requests for services targeted to ending homelessness. DHS asks for the Legislature’s support of the Governor’s Executive Budget requests, and defers to Department of Health in regards to section 2 and 3 and the Office of Youth Services in regards to section 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to appropriate funding for various outreach programs. Homeless Programs Office (HPO) has currently awarded \$4.4 million for outreach services and \$600,000 for civil legal services. The outreach services include, but not limited to, providing or referring to medical care, mental healthcare, substance use treatment programs, addressing civil legal barriers and obtaining government issued identification.

DHS respectfully asks that the Legislature support similar requests in the Governor’s Executive Budget to address homelessness; predictable appropriations through the Executive Budget supports program continuity and overall improvement in the delivery of services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AGENCY



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

March 17, 2017

TO: The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Scott Morishige, MSW, Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness

SUBJECT: HB 1195 HD1 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Hearing: Friday, March 17, 2017, 2:50 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

POSITION: The Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness supports this bill to the extent it is similar to the priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget, and provided that the measure's passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. The Coordinator asks the Legislature to support the Governor's Executive Budget request that includes appropriations to the Department of Human Services (DHS) and Department of Health (DOH) for homeless outreach; civil legal services for homeless persons; homeless individuals with serious and persistent mental health challenges; and outreach and counseling services for chronically homeless persons with severe substance use disorders.

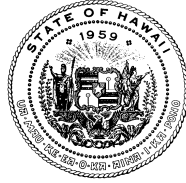
PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to appropriate funds to DOH and DHS, including the Office of Youth Services (OYS), to provide homeless outreach services.

Homeless outreach is a critical component of the State's framework to address homelessness, and is essential to meet unsheltered homeless households in the community and to build rapport that connects them to housing and services, such as Housing First, Rapid Rehousing, or shelter. Outreach workers provide a comprehensive array of services, including completing applications for housing and services, housing search, and obtaining identification and other necessary documents. Without the assistance of homeless outreach, many homeless

individuals are unable to access care and unable to navigate Hawaii's system of homeless services.

In addition to homeless outreach services funded by DHS, the Department of Health (DOH) is requesting funding in the Executive Budget for targeted mental health and substance use treatment services for the unsheltered homeless population. These services are part of the State framework to address homelessness, which includes a focus on three primary leverage points – affordable housing, health and human services, and public safety. All three of these leverage points must be addressed to continue forward momentum in addressing the complex issue of homelessness. The Executive Budget specifically increases resources for outreach, mental health and substance use treatment, as well as addressing housing costs through programs such as Housing First, Rapid Rehousing, and the State Rent Supplement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on H.B. 1195 H.D. 1
RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

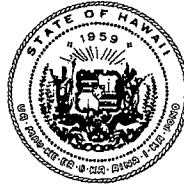
Hearing Date: March 17, 2017

Room Number: 016

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Not determined.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) applauds the intent of this bill to
3 appropriate additional funding in support of key aspects of the State's work to end homelessness
4 which are led by the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness (Coordinator). The DOH
5 continues to follow the lead of the Coordinator to ensure that efforts are synchronized in support
6 of the State's comprehensive framework to address homelessness across the system of care. The
7 framework includes focus of efforts on three primary leverage points – affordable housing,
8 health and human services, and public safety. This measure contains appropriations aimed at
9 resourcing activities to conduct outreach to chronically homeless individuals and families with
10 substance abuse and mental health issues which align with plans developed between the DOH
11 and the Coordinator. The DOH recognizes that additional resources may be necessary to expand
12 services especially to target groups like homeless persons with addiction to drugs or alcohol and
13 individuals with severe mental illness. The DOH asks the Legislature's support of the
14 Governor's Executive Budget request of \$20.9 million, which includes appropriations to the
15 DOH for outreach services to homeless persons with severe and persistent mental illness, and
16 outreach, counseling, and diversion services for unsheltered homeless persons experiencing
17 substance abuse. The DOH requests that any appropriations resulting from this bill do not
18 supplant or replace priorities requested in the Executive Budget.

19 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES
707 Richards Street, Suite 525
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

March 16, 2017

TO: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Merton Chinen, Executive Director

SUBJECT: **HB 1195 HD1, Relating to Homelessness**

Hearing: Friday, March 17, 2017, 2:50 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

OFFICE'S POSITION: The Office of Youth Services (OYS) supports the intent of the measure but requests that any appropriation not affect the priorities in the Executive Biennium Budget. Outreach to youth experiencing homelessness is an important foundational activity in building a trusting relationship that would lead to better outcomes. The outreach and relationship building are especially critical for hard to reach and resistant youth, including unaccompanied homeless youth, many who have suffered from trauma and/or other types of adverse childhood experiences. Unaccompanied homeless youth present complex risk factors that are difficult to address and requires an approach that is rooted in acceptance, trauma-informed and long-term advocacy.

OYS currently provides outreach and advocacy services for youth experiencing, or at-risk for, homelessness through purchase of service contracts statewide. Additional resources would bolster the continuum of care for this vulnerable population.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the measure is to appropriate funds to the DOH and DHS, including Office of Youth Services, to provide homeless outreach services. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 904 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Rick Collins, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of
Hawaii

Bobby Benson Center

Central Oahu Youth Services
Association

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii
Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Student Television

Ho`o

Hui Malama Learning Center

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Life Foundation

Marimed Foundation

Maui Youth and Family Services

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together
(PACT)

Planned Parenthood of the
Great Northwest and
Hawaiian Islands

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community
Center

The Catalyst Group

Uhane Pohaku Na Moku

O Hawai'i

Waikiki Health

March 14, 2017

Senator Josh Green, Chair

And members of the Committee on Human Services

Testimony in Support of HB 1195 HD1 Relating to Homelessness

Hawaii Youth Services Network, a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 1195 HD1 Relating to Homelessness.

Hawaii's homeless population includes runaway and homeless youth who are living on the streets without support or guidance from their families. More than 40% were thrown out of their homes by their families. They are the most vulnerable segment of our homeless population because they are children who have not completed their education, lack employment experience, and have not yet learned the skills for adult living.

Since 1981, Hawaii Youth Services Network has coordinated a statewide runaway and homeless youth collaboration. For the past 15 years, our partners have encountered 700 – 800 of these unaccompanied youth annually. Thirty percent (30%) of Hawaii's juvenile arrests are for running away from home, an average of more than 4,400 arrests each year.

What happens to youth who are living on the street? Many trade sex for the resources they need for survival – food, money, a safe place to sleep.

Homeless youth experience significant health challenges. They are:

- Twice as likely to get sick, be hospitalized, and go hungry.
- 7 times as likely to die from AIDS; 16 times as likely to be diagnosed with HIV.
- 11 times as likely to experience mental health problems.
- 3 times as likely to experience major depression, conduct disorder, and PTSD.

- About 75% of homeless teens use drugs or alcohol as a means to self-medicate to deal with the traumatic experiences and abuse they face.

Safety is a constant concern:

- Trauma and rape rates among unaccompanied youth are 2-3 higher than those of the general youth population.
- A U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services study found that 46% of homeless youth left home because of physical abuse. 17% left because of sexual abuse.
- 5,000 street youth die every year because of assault, illness, or suicide.
- More likely to be the victim of a crime rather than the perpetrator.

Most unaccompanied youth practice unsafe sexual practices:

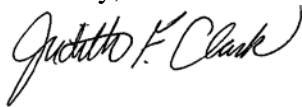
- 33% of teens will be lured into prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home.
- Average age of entry into prostitution is 14.
- 95% of homeless youth have engaged in sexual intercourse.
- Over 33% report exchanging in sex for food, shelter, or drugs.
- About 50% of street youth have had a pregnancy experience.

Street outreach is the first step in helping these youth leave the streets for safer and more appropriate living situations. Reuniting youth with their families, if it is safe for them, is the first choice, with placement in foster care or other out-of-home care if the family is not able to care for the youth. Workers build trusting relationships and convince youth to accept help to leave the streets, while helping them meet their immediate survival needs.

If we want Hawaii's youth to grow up safe, healthy and ready to succeed, we must reach out to our homeless adolescents and end youth homelessness.

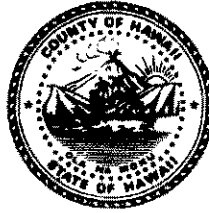
Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i
Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
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March 15, 2017

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Committee on Human Services
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Will Espero, Chair
Committee on Housing
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairs Green, Espero, and Committee members:

**RE: Homelessness: HB 527, HD1; HB 1195, HD 1; HB 1281, HD 1
HB 83, HD1; HB 1240, HD2; HB1098, HD2; SCR 56**

Between your two committees, all the above bills dealing with homelessness will be heard. It is difficult for me to pick and choose among them, and I will defer to your good judgment as to which approaches should move forward and be funded. But I would be remiss if I did not thank you for the attention that you are giving to the issue, and express my hope that you and your fellow legislators will continue to strive to ease this burden and deal humanely with the pain that homelessness afflicts, both on those without shelter and on the community at large.

I should put in a special word for SCR 56. Using Medicaid funds to treat homelessness seems to be such an innovative approach; it deserves extra kudos.

Homelessness is an obvious failure of our society to meet the basic needs of all our people. We cannot hesitate to search for solutions.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Kim
Mayor



HAWAII SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION

HB1195 HOMELESS APPROPRIATION

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES: Senator Green, Chair; Senator Chang, Vice Chair

- Friday, Mar. 17, 2017 at 2:50 p.m.
- Conference Room 016

HSAC Supports HB1195:

Good Morning Chair Green; Vice Chairs Chang; And Distinguished Committee Members. My name is Alan Johnson, Chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, an organization of more than 30 treatment and prevention agencies across the State.

HSAC supports this bill and emphasizes that:

- **Section 3 Outreach, counseling and diversion for homeless unsheltered persons with substance use disorders. Please add co-occurring mental health disorders because many people with SMI also have chronic substance use disorders. And many have co-morbidity medical illnesses as well.**
- **Section 3 LEAD: The diversion program where homeless are diverted to treatment rather than jail has been hugely successful in other states.**

According to the Office of National Drug Control Policy, approximately 30% of people experiencing chronic homelessness have a serious mental illness, and around 67% have a primary substance use disorder or other chronic health condition. These health problems may create difficulties in accessing and maintaining stable, affordable, and appropriate housing.¹

HSAC recommends that we consider that the recent governmental reports that enumerate the huge costs for not treating chronic substance use disorders. The costs of drug abuse and addiction to our nation are staggering.²

- Substance abuse is associated with almost 20% of all Medicaid hospital costs and nearly 25% of Medicare dollars spent on inpatient care. Over 14% of patients admitted to hospitals have alcohol/drug abuse and addiction disorders.
- 70% of individuals in state prisons and jails have used illegal drugs regularly. Drug offenders account for more than one-third of the growth in state prison population and more than 80 percent of the increase in the number of prison inmates since 1985.
- The economic burden in the United States for addiction is twice that of any other disease affecting the brain, including Parkinson's and Alzheimer's Disease, as well as all the others.

¹ SAMHSA: Homeless and Housing. <https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-housing>

² Estimating the costs of substance abuse to the Medicaid hospital care program.

Fox K1, Merrill JC, Chang HH, Califano JA Jr. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/7832261>
Am J Public Health 1995 Jan;85(1):48-54.

- Alcohol and Drug-related hospital emergency (ED) visits increased 81 percent from 2004 to 2009 while ED visits involving the non-medical use of pharmaceuticals increased 98.4%.³

LEAD is the innovative program model that has shown promising success in diverting individuals having low level substance abuse related criminal behavior towards community treatment and case management services.

- *LEAD's goal is to improve public safety and public order, and to reduce the criminal behavior of people who participate in the program.* Other goals are to "reduce" number of people involved in low level offenses related to drug use, mental health, sex work and

LEAD works by giving low-level drug offenders a choice: they can go the standard route of arrest-prosecution-incarceration, or be sent to a case-management program, which offers support services including transitional housing, counseling, job training and drug treatment.

poverty; "undo" racial disparities in the criminal justice system; "sustain" funding for alternate interventions by reinvesting justice system savings; and "strengthen" relationships between law enforcement and community.

With new processes and procedures to identify and coordinate care for high end users of care that have multiple chronic conditions of health issues, we can effectively coordinate care, treat multiple conditions, and improve the effectiveness of treatment outcomes. The proposed funding can validate the cost effectiveness of providing treatment for the chronic homeless population and provide justification for continued funding.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify and are available for questions.

³Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (formerly the Office of Applied Studies). *The DAWN Report: Highlights of the 2009 Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) Findings on Drug-Related Emergency Department Visits*. Rockville, MD, December 28, 2010. Available at: <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k10/DAWN034/EDHighlights.htm>



March 15, 2017

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Service

From: Deborah Zysman, Executive Director
Hawaii Children's Action Network

Re: **HB 1195 HD 1 – Relating to Homelessness**
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 016, March 17, 2017, 2:50 PM

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network (HCAN), we are writing to support HB 1195 HD 1– Relating to Homelessness.

While we support the full bill, HCAN's testimony will focus on homeless families and unaccompanied runaway and homeless youth.

Unaccompanied youth: Outreach and housing for unaccompanied youth is especially critical. Currently there are no state or federal funds in Hawaii for this outreach. Unaccompanied youth living on the streets have different needs and issues than homeless adults and families, while the unaccompanied youth are also some of the most invisible and vulnerable segment of the homeless population. They need outreach and housing programs that are tailored to address their specific needs such as counseling, safety, health issues, and workers who understand adolescent development and their mental health challenges.

Homeless Children: Hawaii has the highest homeless rate in the nation. It's estimated that one-third of the homeless in Hawaii are children.

Unstable Housing: Many of our families may not be living on the street or the beach, yet they don't have permanent housing -- they stay with friends and family -- moving frequently.

High cost of housing for families: 60 percent of households with young children in Hawaii pay more than 30% of their income for housing.

According to a 2012 report published by Child Trends, children and youth who experience a high degree of instability and turbulence in their lives are more likely to suffer higher levels of emotional and behavioral problems. Children and youth who are homeless may suffer from hunger, poor physical and emotional health, and missed educational opportunities.

Hawaii needs a comprehensive solution that helps families and youth at every stage to secure stable housing solutions and build a pathway toward greater economic stability and a healthier thriving

community. Outreach is vital to helping families and unaccompanied youth leave the streets and find better living situations.

For these reasons, HCAN respectfully requests that the committee pass this bill.

HCAN is committed to building a unified voice advocating for Hawaii's children by improving their safety, health, and education. Last fall, HCAN convened input in person and online from more than 50 organizations and individuals that came forward to support or express interest for a number of issues affecting children and families in our state that resulted in the compilation of 2017 Hawai'i Children's Policy Agenda, which can be accessed at <http://www.hawaii-can.org/2017policyagenda>.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 8:00 AM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: kimoc@ihs-hawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/17/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimo K. Carvalho	IHS, The Institute for Human Services	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 4:43 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: pacosta@aleabridge.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/14/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Augustus Acosta	ALEA Bridge	Support	Yes

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:15 AM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: lcook@kualoha.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Cook	Ku Aloha Ola Mau	Support	No

Comments: Ku Aloha Ola Mau is in SUPPORT of HB 1195 HD1. Please include the population with co-occurring mental health disorders as this critical issue must be addressed for successful outcomes. Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1195, HD1: RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Stanley Change, Vice Chair, and Members,
Committee on Human Services
FROM: Terrence L. Walsh, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer
Hearing: **Friday, March 17, 2017; 2:50 PM; CR 016**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of HB 1195, making appropriations for multiple outreach initiatives to provide comprehensive outreach to move homeless people into permanent housing and divert them from the criminal justice system. I am Terry Walsh, with Catholic Charities Hawai'i. We are also a member of Partners in Care.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH) is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing social services in Hawai'i for over 60 years. CCH has programs serving elders, children, developmentally disabled, homeless and immigrants. Our mission is to provide services and advocacy for the most vulnerable in Hawai'i. Ending homelessness is a top priority for 2017.

Hawaii is #1 in the nation for the number of homeless per capita. More people are falling through the cracks in Hawaii. Intensive and more strategic outreach is needed to address homeless encampments as well as those visible in neighborhoods or hidden in bushes, etc. Neighbor Island as well as Oahu providers are struggling to reach out to the increasing number of unsheltered homeless. Outreach is the first step to moving people into permanent housing. More funding is critical to reach these newly homeless and rapidly move them into shelters and other programs. We also need targeted outreach to the mentally ill, substance abusers, and street kids, as well as civil legal services to help people resolve roadblocks to obtaining housing.

We must identify and help the often hidden homeless youth. 30% of all juvenile arrests in Hawaii are for running away—averaging **4,493 per year!** These youths are at high risk for exploitation. Many trade sex for the resources they need for survival—food, money or a safe place to sleep. National statistics show a shocking severity: 33% of teens will be lured into prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home with the average age of entry into prostitution at 14 years old. Homeless youth are 11 times more likely to experience mental health problems. We must address this growing tragedy of kids living on the streets in Hawai'i.

We also need to divert the homeless from the criminal justice system to services. A pilot Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion project (LEAD) can build on other successful programs which found that 60% of people in LEAD were less likely than people in a control group to be arrested. 82% were homeless and 40% became housed. According to the Honolulu Police Department, **43% of detainees** in HPD's central cell block last year were homeless. LEAD would lead the homeless to programs vs to jail. Over 20 agencies are in the LEAD Hawaii Hui, seeking to implement this successful program for Hawaii.

We strongly urge your support for this bill to work towards our goal of ending homelessness. Please contact our Legislative Liaison, Betty Lou Larson, , at 373-0356, or at bettylou.larson@catholiccharitieshawaii.org, if you have any questions.





PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

March 17, 2017

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TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Natalie Okeson, Interim Executive Director

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of HB 1195, HD1: RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Hearing: March 17, 2017 at 2:50pm
Conference Room 016

Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang, Members of the Committee on Human Services,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1195, HD1. I am Natalie Okeson, the Interim Executive Director of PHOCUSED.

PHOCUSED is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to increasing the safety for, visibility of, and investment in the children and adults in Hawaii who are marginalized, impoverished, and under-served. Our organization has been a leading voice in advocating for our homeless populations since our formation, as the membership of PHOCUSED and our Board of Directors represent many of the major providers of human services across our state. In addition, as a member of Partners in Care, PHOCUSED is proud to strongly support HB1195, HD1.

Our organization believes that, although many strides have been made, Hawaii's ranking as the nation's leader in per capita homelessness demands major investment, as well as action on the part of all community members. This bill is a crucial piece of the aforementioned investment. HB1195, HD1 appropriates funds to the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services, including the office of youth services, to provide homeless outreach services to those with mental illness, substance abuse disorders, families with children and unaccompanied youth.

Outreach is a crucial component of working to house those persons living unsheltered. Without the first contact made through outreach, none of the services related to housing and treatment can be offered. The dedicated



PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

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individuals performing outreach work build much needed trust with our homeless individuals over the course of many, many contacts. It is often this trust with our professional outreach workers that finally enables someone to agree to seek treatment or to be assessed to determine which shelter or housing option would be appropriate.

Our organization also fully supports the LEAD program, which is gaining traction and changing lives in our nation's most innovative cities.

PHOCUSED encourages the passage of this bill on many grounds, especially given the foundational importance of outreach in impacting homelessness as mentioned above, but would like to highlight that sixty seven percent of runaway youth are fleeing physical or sexual abuse at home and that one third of those children will find themselves sexually trafficked within 48hours. The critical nature of outreach to the homeless youth population cannot be overstated.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB1195, HD1.

March 16, 2017

Senator Josh Green, Chair
And members of the Committee on Human Services

Testimony in Support of HB 1195 HD1 Relating to Homelessness

Partners in Care strongly supports HB 1195, making appropriations for multiple outreach initiatives to provide comprehensive outreach to move homeless people into permanent housing and divert them from the criminal justice system.

Partners in Care is a coalition of services providers working together to eliminate homelessness in Hawaii.

Hawaii is #1 in the nation for the number of homeless per capita. More people are falling through the cracks in Hawaii. Intensive and more strategic outreach is needed to address homeless encampments as well as those visible in neighborhoods or hidden in bushes, etc. Neighbor Island as well as Oahu providers are struggling to reach out to the increasing number of unsheltered homeless. Outreach is the first step to moving people into permanent housing. More funding is critical to reach these newly homeless and rapidly move them into shelters and other programs. We also need targeted outreach to the mentally ill, substance abusers, and street kids, as well as civil legal services to help people resolve roadblocks to obtaining housing.

We must identify and help the often hidden homeless youth. 30% of all juvenile arrests in Hawaii are for running away—averaging **4,493 per year!** These youths are at high risk for exploitation. Many trade sex for the resources they need for survival—food, money or a safe place to sleep. National statistics show a shocking severity: 33% of teens will be lured into prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home with the average age of entry into prostitution at 14 years old. Homeless youth are 11 times more likely to experience mental health problems. We must address this growing tragedy of kids living on the streets in Hawai'i.

We also need to divert the homeless from the criminal justice system to services. A pilot Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion project (LEAD) can build on other successful programs which found that 60% of people in LEAD were less likely than people in a control group to be arrested. 82% were homeless and 40% became housed. According to the Honolulu Police Department, **43% of detainees** in HPD's central cell block last year were homeless. LEAD would lead the homeless to programs vs to jail. Over 20 agencies are in the LEAD Hawaii Hui, seeking to implement this successful program for Hawaii.

We strongly urge your support for this bill to work towards our goal of ending homelessness.

Sincerely,

Greg Payton
Chair, Advocacy Committee
Partners in Care

TO: Sen. Josh Green, Chair, and Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair, and members,
Senate Human Services Committee
FR: Marya Grambs, member, Partners in Care and PHOCUSED
RE: HB1195, Relating to Homelessness; **STRONG SUPPORT**
HEARING: Friday March 17, 2:50 pm, room 016

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB1195, in STRONG SUPPORT. I am a member of Partners in Care, a coalition of homelessness agencies; and PHOCUSED, an organization which advocates for services and policies for vulnerable and underserved populations.

This bill appropriates critically needed funds for homeless outreach, including for unaccompanied youth (street kids, runaways); for those with serious mental illness; and for those with substance use disorders.

Very importantly, it includes \$200,000 for a proposed new program, Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD). In this program, a police officer, who is about to arrest someone for a low-level drug offense, instead will be able to offer the person the opportunity to meet with a social worker rather than being arrested. Of those served by LEAD in Seattle, 82% were homeless – and **40% of them were housed**; they were **60% less likely to be re-arrested**, and **55% received drug treatment**.

Of the 16,000 arrests made on Oahu last year, **61%** involved people who were severely mentally ill or abusing drugs, **and 43%** were homeless, **with 72%** of them having a serious mental illness or substance abuse problem.

LEAD provides an opportunity **to reduce the prison population, reduce the amount of time and costs of law enforcement in dealing with these individuals who cycle in and out of jail; to reduce the homeless population; and to get those with substance use disorders into treatment. It's enormously cost saving – and lifesaving.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Aloha,

Marya Grambs
mgrambs@hotmail.com
P: 808.778.9178

TO: Sen. Josh Green, Chair, and Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair, and members,
Senate Human Services Committee
FR: Marya Grambs, member, Partners in Care and PHOCUSED
RE: HB1195, Relating to Homelessness; **AMENDED TESTIMONY**
HEARING: Friday March 17, 2:50 pm, room 016

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB1195, in STRONG SUPPORT. I'd like to amend my previously submitted testimony as follows:

Suggested Amendment: We request that “\$_____ be allocated for ongoing rental subsidies for homeless and persons at imminent risk of becoming homeless, and _____ positions to operate the program. Monies are to be expended by _____ department.” Funding was taken out of the executive budget for ongoing rental subsidies which would rapidly house homeless working families, seniors or others with a stable income and capable of paying rent. They just have a gap between their incomes and rents in Hawaii. This is ongoing, versus temporary, rent supplements. We request that this be added to this stand-alone bill since there can be benchmarks to measure the effectiveness of these funds.

I do want to reiterate that HB1195 includes \$200,000 for a proposed new program, Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD). In this program, a police officer, who is about to arrest someone for a low-level drug offense, instead will be able to offer the person the opportunity to meet with a social worker rather than being arrested. Of those served by LEAD in Seattle, 82% were homeless – and **40% of them were housed**; they were **60% less likely to be re-arrested**, and **55% received drug treatment**.

Of the 16,000 arrests made on Oahu last year, **61%** involved people who were severely mentally ill or abusing drugs, **and 43%** were homeless, **with 72%** of them having a serious mental illness or substance abuse problem.

LEAD provides an opportunity **to reduce the prison population, reduce the amount of time and costs of law enforcement in dealing with these individuals who cycle in and out of jail; to reduce the homeless population; and to get those with substance use disorders into treatment. It's enormously cost saving – and lifesaving.**

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

Aloha,

Marya Grambs
mgrambs@hotmail.com
P: 808.778.9178

Aloha,

Marya Grambs
mgrambs@hotmail.com
P: 808.778.9178



HAWAII APPLESEED

CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Supporting HB 1195 Relating to Homelessness
Senate Human Services Committee
Scheduled for Hearing Friday, March 17 at 2:45pm, Conference Room 016

Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice Hawai'i Appleseed is committed to a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. We change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, advocacy, and coalition building.

Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of HB 1195. Homelessness is one of the biggest problems facing Hawai'i. Our state has the highest housing costs in the nation and the lowest wages when adjusted for cost of living. Not surprisingly, we also have the highest homelessness rate in the nation, with 7,921 unsheltered homeless at last count. As increases in housing costs have outpaced increases in wages, the problem has gotten worse.

The outreach and assistance programs HB 1195 would support are critical to addressing homelessness in Hawai'i. Of particular note is the newly proposed Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program, which is based on a tremendously successful program in Seattle. Instead of clogging Hawai'i's jails and courts with people who have committed low-level offenses (such as those with which homeless individuals are often charged), LEAD connects them with services that helps them to address the root causes of the problems that had been leading to their involvement with the criminal justice system.

LEAD has been shown through evaluation to have cut down recidivism rates for participants. LEAD participants were fifty-eight percent less likely to be arrested after enrollment in the LEAD program. Compared to control participants, LEAD participants showed a significant reduction in days spent in jail after entering into the program. Participants were also eighty-seven percent less likely to be incarcerated in prison after entrance into the program.

LEAD provides a way forward for individuals otherwise trapped in a vicious cycle of jail, court, and re-offense. In addition to those in the program being less likely to recidivate, evaluations from the program show that **participants in the program were twice as likely to have been sheltered** than non-participants. Additionally, LEAD participants were forty-six percent more likely to be on the employment continuum (employment training, etc.) and thirty-three percent more likely to be connected to income and benefits after their LEAD involvement.

For these reasons, Hawai'i Appleseed supports HB 1195 and its measures to connect individuals and families to the services that are critical for helping them escape homelessness. Thank you for your consideration of this important bill.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com



COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Sen. Josh Green, Chair

Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Friday, March 17, 2017

2:50 pm

Room 016

STRONG SUPPORT - HB 1195 HD1 - HELPING HAWAII'S PEOPLE

Aloha Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies in Hawai'i for two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the approximately 6,000 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars or under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that approximately 1,700 of Hawai'i's imprisoned people are serving their sentences abroad thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Native Hawaiians, far from their ancestral lands.

HB 1195 HD1 appropriates funds to DOH and DHS, including the office of youth services, to provide homeless outreach services. Community Alliance on Prisons is in strong support of this bill to fund appropriate services to some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

According to the Honolulu Police Department¹, of the 16,000 arrests made on Oahu in 2016, 61% involved people who were severely mentally ill or abusing drugs and 43% of detainees in HPD's central cell block last year were homeless. Of those, 72% had a serious mental illness or substance abuse problem.

As of November 30, 2016, 51% of the people imprisoned at OCCC are pre-trial detainees costing the state more than **\$2 million a month**. 43% of the individuals held in the police cell block are houseless.

¹ Ige: Keep Minor Offenders Out Of Jail And Off The Streets, By [Anita Hofschneider](#), January 23, 2017. <http://www.civilbeat.org/2017/01/ige-keep-minor-offenders-out-of-jail-and-off-the-streets/>

Why are we using jails and prisons to hide away our social challenges? These correctional institutions are not equipped to address these public health issues.

Incarceration is the most expensive sanction. Providing appropriate services to those struggling in our community is the smart way – the compassionate and humane way – to address our social challenges. Once someone gets entangled in the criminal justice web, the system makes it virtually impossible to move forward after one pays his/her debt to society.

The police are frustrated because they see the same people day after day who are accumulating parking tickets and other violations pushing them further down the debt spiral. The community is frustrated because they only see the number of people living unsheltered growing with no end in sight as Honolulu builds fancy condominiums for people from somewhere else.

This frustration spurred the community to work together to find better solutions. The LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) program from Seattle was a great model to study. A community of service providers, organizations, agencies, and policymakers, convened by Heather Lusk, Executive Director of the CHOW project, have been meeting since June 2016 to build the infrastructure that is vital for the success of the LEAD program in Hawai'i. The LEAD Hawai'i Hui has a wide net that is pulling all sorts of unlikely allies together to work collaboratively to address the pressing social issues that affect everyone in our community.

As a member of the LEAD Hawai'i Hui, Community Alliance on Prisons has been heartened to witness our really amazing and diverse community step up to serve some of our most vulnerable people. The LEAD Hawai'i Hui has put real thought and planning into what is most needed and how to best serve our people.

LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) started in Seattle in 2011. In that city, police officers who arrest people for low-level drug offenses or sex work give them the option of receiving social services through LEAD rather than getting booked into jail. Officers can also recommend people join the program without arresting them first.

In the five years since it's been implemented, the collaboration between service providers and law enforcement has gained national recognition for its effectiveness in not only reducing arrests, drug addiction and homelessness, but also improving relationships between police and communities.

Improving relationships between community and law enforcement is vital to community health and safety and so desperately needed at this point in time.

The kind of comprehensive thinking with experts in the fields of behavioral health, housing, health care, government, associations and organizations from our community form

the basis for this program we are working to establish as a pilot in Honolulu. The Hawai'i Department of Health has been on board and is excited about this project. **We implore the committee to champion the funding to start the LEAD pilot program.**

As the article cited reported, the National Director for LEAD, Kris Nyrop came to Honolulu and spoke at the 2017 Harm Reduction Conference "Humanize Not Criminalize" about the LEAD program in Seattle and how it is sweeping the nation. Law enforcement sees the benefits of improved community relations and the community see the benefits of building trust with law enforcement that LEAD can encourage.

The HB 1195 committee report expresses the intent of this comprehensive bill to provide funding for houseless people with serious and persistent mental illness; outreach, counselling, and diversion for houseless people experiencing substance misuse; funding for the LEAD program; funding for unsheltered families with children; funding for houseless youth; and funding for civil legal services for houseless individuals.

"LEAD works much better than the criminal justice system in reducing people's criminal behavior," said Kris Nyrop, who helped start the program in Seattle and recently visited Honolulu to advise local service providers. "Even providing a Cadillac level of services to them is cheaper than the criminal justice system."

The program started with \$400,000 in Seattle and served about 65 people, Nyrop said. Now its budget is \$2.1 million and it serves more than 400 currently, he said.

The program has also been adopted in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Albany, New York. California recently approved \$15 million for three pilot projects, and North Carolina is considering expanding its LEAD program after the state was one of the first jurisdictions to follow Seattle's lead.

Please make March 17th not only a Great Day for the Irish but a Great Day for Hawai'i as we develop and implement more compassionate and humane ways to address our social challenges.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

*To care for anyone else enough to make their problems one's own,
is ever the beginning of one's real ethical development.*

Felix Adler

To: Hawaii State Senate Committee on Human Services
Hearing Date/Time: Friday, March 17, 2017, 2:50 PM
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 016

Position Statement in Support of House Bill 1195 HD1

Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the Committee on Human Services,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in **support of HB 1195**, relating to homelessness. This bill would make appropriations for comprehensive outreach to people experiencing homelessness. The investment made to address homelessness and outreach is small compared to the costs of homelessness increasing and the toll it takes on our community.

In the past year, our state has made great strides in getting people off the street and into shelter or housing. We need to take the next step and reach those individuals who need the most help getting people off the streets. Targeting hard to reach groups, like unaccompanied youth or persons with serious mental illness, requires strategic outreach. Without outreach, however, there is only a slim chance a person experiencing homelessness would connect to the services they need to get off the streets.

We also need to address the connection between homelessness and incarceration. The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program aims to reduce the number of people arrested for low-level drug offenses by referring them to a case manager. The program launched in Seattle and it has made substantial progress in addressing a range of issues. Notably, the majority of those who were homeless received housing and they were less likely to be re-arrested. There is a broad coalition of support from community members and service providers for LEAD and the positive impact it can have on our community.

House bill 1195 ensures the good work by our state continues. It provides for a sophisticated strategy of outreach and programs. I urge your support of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration on this matter.

Kathleen Algire
Advocacy Coordinator

TESTIMONY

Harm Reduction Hawaii
c/o 1658 Liholiho St #205
Honolulu, HI 96822

March 15, 2017

RE:HB 1195 to be heard Friday March 17, in Room 016 at 2:50 PM

To the members of the Senate Committee on Human Services

Dear Committee Members:

We support this bill on behalf of the Harm Reduction Coalition as it provides for the LEAD pilot project which so many of us have been working on.

LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) is a program initiated in Seattle that has allowed law enforcement to change the dynamic between police and persons living or working in the streets. An adversarial and criminal justice solution based paradigm is being replaced by a cooperative and social service one. The results include a reduction of street based crime, a reduction of court and incarceration costs, and many opportunities for persons living on the margins of society to improve their lives. It is a winning idea.

Signed:



Tracy Ryan, Executive Director



March 15, 2017

Senate Committee on Human Services

To: Chair Josh Green
Vice Chair Stanley Chang

From: Connie Miller, Administrator
Hale Makua Kahului

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 92 HD 1, Relating to Long-Term Care Facilities

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of HB 92 HD 1. As the Administrator of Hale Makua Kahului, a Maui nursing home with a capacity for 254 Kupuna, I urge you to support this bill.

At my nursing home in Kahului, over 70% of our residents are on Medicaid. We do not turn away people in need because they are on Medicaid. However, the Medicaid reimbursement is less than our costs for providing care. We have done all we can to cut expenses, but without the inflationary increase, our labor challenges will continue to worsen. Not only are we not able to provide the kinds of wages our employees deserve, we are having a very hard time recruiting for numerous openings due to our inability to compete with wages offered by other employers. Additionally, our delayed maintenance continues to add up, and our year-over-year losses continue to drain our limited reserves.

This legislation would provide financial relief to nursing in Hawaii by increasing our Medicaid rates through a modest inflationary update in fiscal years 2018 and 2019. We are extremely grateful that the legislature supported this funding last year by approving a one-time appropriation of approximately \$2 million that generated an additional \$2.5 million in federal funding for the state. We also appreciate that the administration included this funding as part of the biennium budget and hope that the legislature will support this complementary measure to ensure that this critical funding is available.

This legislation presents a common-sense way to use available federal resources to support Hawaii's Kupuna; a population that is growing quickly. The state funding will generate an additional \$7.2 million in federal dollars coming into the state. I urge you to support Hawaii's long-term care providers and the Kupuna we serve by voting in favor of HB 92 HD 1. Thank you for your consideration.



March 15, 2017

Testimony in strong support of HB1195

The Hawaii Chapter of the Young Progressive Demanding Action, representing nearly 600 registered members, supports this important bill to fund a variety of programs for people living unsheltered in our communities. Among other important appropriations, the committee report shows an earmark of \$200,000 to establish a Law Enforcement-Assisted Diversion (LEAD) pilot program in Honolulu. LEAD programs reduce prison populations while helping low-level offenders get the help that they need to remain productive members of society. They also save taxpayers money.

Of the 16,000 arrests made on Oahu last year, 61 percent involved people who were severely mentally ill or abusing drugs, according to the Honolulu Police Department. 43 percent of detainees in HPD's central cell block last year were homeless. Of those, 72 percent had a serious mental illness or substance abuse problem. Programs like LEAD will therefore have a large effect within our communities.

A community of service providers, community organizations, agencies and policymakers have been meeting since June 2016 to build the infrastructure that is vital to make this program work. Real thought and planning about how to best serve some of the most vulnerable people in our community form the basis for this program and should form the backbone of all public policy regarding both public safety and human services. Only when these two segments of public policy begin to work in tandem with one another will we be able to successfully address the complicated socioeconomic factors that lead to the interconnected issues of poverty, houselessness, mental health, drug abuse and crime.



DOING THE MOST GOOD

Founded in 1865

William Booth
Founder

Andre Cox
General

Kenneth Hodder
Territorial Commander

John Chamness
Lani Chamness
Divisional Leaders

Melanie Boehm
Executive Director

The Salvation Army

Addiction Treatment Services and Family Treatment Services

3/16/17

HB1195 HOMELESS APPROPRIATION

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES: Senator Green, Chair; Senator Chang, Vice Chair

- Friday, Mar. 17, 2017 at 2:50 p.m.
Conference Room 016

The Salvation Army Addiction Treatment Services and Family Treatment Services Supports HB1195 with one suggestion for change in wording and an emphasis on law enforcement assisted diversion (LEAD):

- **SECTION 3: Suggested wording change**, because many chronically homeless have severe mental illness, a co-morbid medical illness, and/or a chronic substance use disorder.

According to the [Office of National Drug Control Policy](#), approximately 67% of people experiencing chronic homelessness have a primary substance use disorder or other chronic health condition and around 30% have a serious mental illness. These health problems may create difficulties in accessing and maintaining stable, affordable, and appropriate housing.¹

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general 14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much 15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the 16 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 17 2018-2019 for outreach, counseling, and diversion for homeless 18 unsheltered persons experiencing substance abuse, "co-occurring mental health disorders and/or comorbid medical illness"

- **SECTION 3: The Salvation Army also supports the inclusion of LEAD in HB1195.** LEAD is the innovative program model that has shown promising success in diverting individuals having low-level substance abuse related criminal behavior towards community treatment and case management services. Current programs across the nation indicate that the majority of low-

¹ SAMHSA: Homeless and Housing. <https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-housing>
Addiction Treatment Services

3624 Waokanaka Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817 ♦Tel: (808) 595-6371 ♦Fax: (808) 595-8250

Family Treatment Services

845 22nd Avenue ♦ Honolulu, Hawai'i 96816 ♦Tel: (808) 732-2802 ♦Fax: (808) 734-7470

Visit us at: www.SalvationArmyHawaii.org

Participating Agency



Aloha United Way



DOING THE MOST GOOD

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William Booth
Founder

Andre Cox
General

Kenneth Hodder
Territorial Commander

John Chamness
Lani Chamness
Divisional Leaders

Melanie Boehm
Executive Director

The Salvation Army

Addiction Treatment Services and Family Treatment Services

level criminal activity is committed by people struggling with a substance use disorder.

- Substance abuse is associated with almost 20% of all Medicaid hospital costs and nearly 25% of Medicare dollars spent on inpatient care. Over 14% of patients admitted to hospitals have alcohol/drug abuse and addiction disorders.
- 70% of individuals in state prisons and jails have used illegal drugs regularly. Drug offenders account for more than one-third of the growth in state prison population and more than 80 percent of the increase in the number of prison inmates since 1985.
- Alcohol and Drug-related hospital emergency (ED) visits increased 81 percent from 2004 to 2009 while ED visits involving the non-medical use of pharmaceuticals increased 98.4%.²

LEAD works by giving low-level drug offenders a choice: they can go the standard route of arrest-prosecution-incarceration, or be sent to a case-management program, which offers support services including transitional housing, counseling, job training and treatment for substance use disorders.

The Salvation Army ATS-FTS supports new processes and procedures to identify and coordinate care for high-end users of emergency medical care who have multiple chronic conditions of health as is suggested in HB1195. We must effectively coordinate care, treat multiple conditions, and improve the effectiveness of treatment outcomes. The proposed funding can demonstrate the cost effectiveness of providing treatment for the chronic homeless population.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on this important bill.

Sincerely,

Melanie T. Boehm MA, LMHC, CSAC
Executive Director ATS-FTS

²Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (formerly the Office of Applied Studies). *The DAWN Report: Highlights of the 2009 Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) Findings on Drug-Related Emergency Department Visits*. Rockville, MD, December 28, 2010. Available at: <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k10/DAWN034/EDHighlights.htm>
Addiction Treatment Services



3624 Waokanaka Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96817 ♦Tel: (808) 595-6371 ♦Fax: (808) 595-8250

Family Treatment Services

845 22nd Avenue ♦ Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96816 ♦Tel: (808) 732-2802 ♦Fax: (808) 734-7470

Visit us at: www.SalvationArmyHawaii.org



Dedicated to safe, responsible, humane and effective drug policies since 1993

TO: Senate Committee on Human Services
FROM: Carl Bergquist, Executive Director
HEARING DATE: 17 March 2017, 2:50PM
RE: HB1195 HD1, Relating to Homelessness, **IN SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang, Members of the Committee:

The Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i (DPFHI) strongly supports this measure to fund, among other matters, a Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) pilot program. We are members of a 20-organization strong [grass-roots hui, led by the CHOW Project](#), that has been working for many months to bring LEAD to Hawai'i, and as such we welcome the support that this bill provides.

LEAD has been proven to work elsewhere in preventing at-risk individuals who are often both houseless and use drugs. Instead of being arrested, they are diverted to various services including housing, mental health or substance abuse counseling. This approach not only better serves the needs of the impacted individual, but it lessens the burdens and strains placed on our criminal justice system while also fostering greater trust between law enforcement and the communities they are sworn to serve and protect.

It was very exciting to see so many related measures being considered by the legislature this session, which when taken together truly would change the costly and punitive nature of Hawaii's approach to criminal justice. Beginning with front-end solutions like LEAD and back-end ones like the Community Court as proposed in SB718 and HB457, we also supported changing some of our laws to decriminalize certain offenses, e.g. possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia (HB1501 HD2). In recognizing the need for a community court and for LEAD, we also recognize that our laws are criminalizing people who deserve better. Updating our laws to reflect this is common sense, and creates a better environment in which LEAD and the Community Court can operate.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Community Health Outreach Work

677 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 226
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone (808) 853-3292 • Fax (808) 853-3274

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1195: RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair, and the Members of the Committee on Human Services

FROM: Heather Lusk, Executive Director, CHOW Project

Hearing: Friday, March 17 at 2:50 PM in Conference room 016

Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of HB1195 HD1.

The Community Health Outreach Work (CHOW) Project supports the legislature's assertion that addressing homelessness requires a strategic, multi-faceted approach. Moreover, the CHOW Project strongly supports the proposed appropriation of funds to begin a Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) pilot program.

CHOW started and coordinates the Hawaii LEAD HUI, a group of 24 agencies dedicated to implementing a LEAD pilot in Hawaii with fidelity to the Seattle model (<http://leadkingcounty.org>). Seattle's LEAD program has effectively diverted low-level offenders from arrest to non-punitive programs that allow the individual to receive appropriate support from the community. LEAD has five years of data showing its effectiveness:

- LEAD participants were 58% less likely to be re-arrested
- LEAD participants accessed services (49% mental health treatment, 55% drug treatment)

In order to replicate these outcomes in Hawaii, we must also replicate the core components that the evaluation found to be effective for LEAD, including:

- Harm-reduction based intensive case management with a warm hand off from law enforcement, with only an intake mandated to participate;
- On-going case coordination between law enforcement and community-based case managers;
- A coordinating committee comprised of law enforcement, the prosecutor's office, public safety and community members such as the LEAD hui; and
- Comprehensive data collection and program evaluation to identify elements of effectiveness.

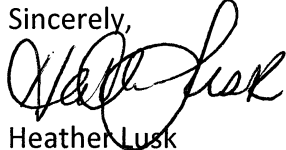
LEAD is a key component to the multi-faceted approach to homelessness that the legislature wishes to implement. LEAD, when implemented with fidelity to the Seattle model, will be an effective complement to other programs dedicated to addressing issues around homelessness, such as the community outreach court.

The Community Health Outreach Work (CHOW) Project is dedicated to serving individuals, families and communities adversely affected by drug use, especially people who inject drugs, through a participant-centered harm reduction approach. CHOW works to reduce drug-related

harms such as but not limited to HIV, hepatitis B/C, and overdose. CHOW supports the optimal health and well-being of people affected by drug use throughout the State of Hawaii. CHOW has operated the statewide syringe exchange program for the past twenty years. CHOW supports the harm reduction model to addressing drug use and further supports the decriminalization of drug paraphernalia offenses.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony and please support HB1195 HD1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather Lusk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Heather" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Lusk".

Heather Lusk
Executive Director
CHOW Project



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Executive Director

**TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 1195, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO
HOMELESSNESS**

**Senate Committee on Human Services
Hon. Josh Green, Chair
Hon. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair**

**Friday, March 17, 2017, 2:50 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

Honorable Chair Green and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMU Alliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 350 members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of House Bill 1195, HD 1, relating to homelessness.

According to the 2016 statewide *Point In Time Count* (PITC) report, 7,921 houseless persons were counted on a single night in January last year, up 4 percent from 2015. More than half of these persons were unsheltered. O'ahu accounted for 62 percent of the total (4,940 people), up 1 percent from the previous year. Kaua'i saw a 30 percent increase in the homeless population living on its shores (442 people), while the Big Island saw an increase of 12 percent (1,394 people). Overall, our state saw a 12 percent increase in the number of unsheltered homeless individuals and families and, concurrently, a 4.5 percent decrease in the number of sheltered individuals and families. Notably, the size of the houseless population on O'ahu is up 25 percent from 2009, when 3,638 homeless people were counted. Additionally, Department of Education officials said, last January, that 3,576 public school students are homeless. Last year's PITC captured just over half of them. We know, then, that our state's homeless population is not only larger than the statistics show, but growing.

Over 30 percent of juvenile arrests in Hawai'i are for running away from home, the highest proportion in the nation. Nationally, one in seven young people between the ages of 10 and 18 will run away. Approximately 75 percent of runaways are female, while 46 percent of runaway and homeless youth report being physically abused, 38 percent report being emotionally abused, and 17 percent report being forced into unwanted sexual activity by a family or household member, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Roughly 30 percent runaway children will be approached for commercial sexual exploitation within 48 hours of being on the run, with over 80 percent being approached for the sex trade during the course of

their time on streets. A federal study found that an estimated 38,600 runaway youth have been sexually assaulted, in the company of someone known to be sexually abusive, or engaged in sexual activity in exchange for money, food, or shelter. Runaways are perceived as easy targets for sex traffickers because they lack stable shelter, a supportive environment, and financial resources, placing them at greater risk of forced prostitution and sexual servitude.

Traffickers exploit our limited number of available shelter beds to lure young people into exploitation. As the homeless childcare provider Covenant House observes, traffickers tell homeless youth that shelters are full and ask, “Where are you going to go? Why don’t you come with me? I’ll take care of you.” Coupled with threats of and enacted physical and sexual violence against the victims or their families, these coercive techniques compel runaway youth to remain enslaved. LGBTQ youth, who comprise an estimated 40 percent of the runaway and homeless youth population in the United States, are exponentially more likely to fall prey to human traffickers because of discrimination, family and community trauma, and a longing for comfort and acceptance (an estimated 26 percent of LGBTQ adolescents are rejected by their families and put out of their homes simply for being open and honest about who they are). In providing care for victims of human trafficking, IMUAlliance has heard their stories hundreds of times.

When you fund services for the homeless, especially outreach toward runaway youth, you are helping to end slavery in Hawai’i. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Executive Director
IMUAlliance



Committees: Committee on Human Services
Hearing Date/Time: Friday, March 17, 2017, 2:50 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 016
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in **Support** of H.B. 1195, H.D. 1, Relating to the Homelessness

Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii (“ACLU of Hawaii”) writes in support of H.B. 1195, H.D. 1, which appropriates funds for homeless outreach services.

Homeless families and unaccompanied homeless youth are among our most vulnerable populations. This measure will fund multi-faceted outreach efforts to these populations, including efforts to address the specific needs of newly homeless youth, many of whom are running away from home, and who often do not know where to turn for support. Additionally, Section 3 of the bill appropriates funding for the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (“LEAD”) program. The LEAD program is an opportunity to foster trust between police officers and members of the public, especially those experiencing homelessness. An evaluation of the Seattle LEAD program has shown that the program can reduce rates of re-arrest, encourage people struggling with addiction to enter into treatment, and help formerly homeless individuals into shelter.

For these reasons, the ACLU urges the Committees to support H.B. 1195, H.D.1.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Mandy Finlay
Advocacy Coordinator
ACLU of Hawaii

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for 50 years.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801
T: 808.522.5900
F: 808.522.5909
E: office@acluhawaii.org
www.acluhawaii.org



HAWAII APPLESEED

CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Supporting HB 1195 Relating to Homelessness
Senate Human Services Committee
Scheduled for Hearing Friday, March 17 at 2:45pm, Conference Room 016
Amended Testimony

Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice Hawai'i Appleseed is committed to a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. We change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, advocacy, and coalition building.

Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of HB 1195. Homelessness is one of the biggest problems facing Hawai'i. Our state has the highest housing costs in the nation and the lowest wages when adjusted for cost of living. Not surprisingly, we also have the highest homelessness rate in the nation, with 7,921 unsheltered homeless at last count. As increases in housing costs have outpaced increases in wages, the problem has gotten worse.

The outreach and assistance programs HB 1195 would support are critical to addressing homelessness in Hawai'i. Of particular note is the newly proposed Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program, which is based on a tremendously successful program in Seattle. Instead of clogging Hawai'i's jails and courts with people who have committed low-level offenses (such as those with which homeless individuals are often charged), LEAD connects them with services that helps them to address the root causes of the problems that had been leading to their involvement with the criminal justice system.

LEAD has been shown through evaluation to have cut down recidivism rates for participants. LEAD participants were fifty-eight percent less likely to be arrested after enrollment in the LEAD program. Compared to control participants, LEAD participants showed a significant reduction in days spent in jail after entering into the program. Participants were also eighty-seven percent less likely to be incarcerated in prison after entrance into the program.

LEAD provides a way forward for individuals otherwise trapped in a vicious cycle of jail, court, and re-offense. In addition to those in the program being less likely to recidivate, evaluations from the program show that **participants in the program were twice as likely to have been sheltered** than non-participants. Additionally, LEAD participants were forty-six percent more likely to be on the employment continuum (employment training, etc.) and thirty-three percent more likely to be connected to income and benefits after their LEAD involvement.

For these reasons, Hawai'i Appleseed supports HB 1195 and its measures to connect individuals and families to the services that are critical for helping them escape homelessness.

To further strengthen the bill's ability to address homelessness, we respectfully suggest the following language be added to the bill: **“\$_____ be allocated for ongoing rental subsidies to house homeless and persons at imminent risk of becoming homeless, and _____ positions to operate the program. Monies are to be expended by _____ department.”** This proposed amendment is necessary because funding was taken out of the executive budget for ongoing rental subsidies which would rapidly house homeless working families, seniors or others with a stable income and capable of paying rent. We request that this be added to this stand-alone bill so this effective program can be continued.

Thank you for your consideration of this important bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 12:49 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: julianna@actionwithaloha.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julianna Moefu-Kaleopa	Action with Aloha	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 10:20 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: jerolynl@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jerolyn laberinto	Action With Aloha	Support	No

Comments: I am in full support of this bill passing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 2:04 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: tyamashi@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tami Yamashita	Action With Aloha	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 2:16 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: joyceparkhurstawa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joyce Parkhurst	Action with Aloha	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill both as an individual and also in conjunction for the organization I work for (Action with Aloha). I am a social worker and provide mental health and substance abuse services for individuals who are homeless.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 12:24 AM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: spensert@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/17/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Spenser Kunishige	Action with Aloha	Support	No

Comments:

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Aloha Chair Senator Green and Vice Chair Senator Chang and the committee members for Human Services,

I am writing to support the appropriation of funds to establish a law enforcement assisted diversion (LEAD) pilot program in Honolulu as is currently written in the HB 1195 bill.

This program is evidence-based justice. In a recent study, LEAD participants had 34 to 58% lower odds of arrest compared to a control group that went through the “justice system as usual.” Given our over-taxed jail, it is crucial to assist diversion efforts.

This program is also an important and pono way to address systemic flaws in how we have criminalized behavior of our community members who are suffering from mental illness and addiction. As the national bureau for LEAD notes, this is "a way for law enforcement and prosecutors to help communities respond to public order issues stemming from unaddressed public health and human services needs -- addiction, untreated mental illness, homelessness, and extreme poverty -- through a public health framework that reduces reliance on the formal criminal justice system."

As resident of Honolulu and a Ph.D. student in urban planning who has been keeping an eye on urban policy reform, this is a much-needed step in the right direction. Please see the attached map of the good company of other jurisdictions we would join.

Annie Koh
Ph.D. candidate, Urban & Regional Planning
UH Manoa

TO: Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the committees on Human Services and Housing

Hearing: Senate Human Services Committee; Friday, March 17 at 2:50pm; Conference Rm 016

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1195: RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Hawaii is #1 in the nation for the number of homeless per capita. More people are falling through the cracks in Hawaii. Outreach can provide the compassionate contacts and housing navigation to help people be linked to appropriate resources with housing as the goal. Intensive and more strategic outreach is needed to address homeless encampments as well as those visible in neighborhoods or hidden in bushes, etc. Neighbor Island as well as Oahu providers are struggling to reach out to the increasing number of unsheltered homeless. Outreach is the first step to moving people into permanent housing.

More funding is critical to reach these newly homeless and rapidly move them into shelters and other programs. We also need targeted outreach to meet the special needs of the mentally ill, substance abusers, and street kids, as well as civil legal services to help homeless people resolve roadblocks to obtaining housing.

We must identify and help the often hidden homeless youth. 30% of all juvenile arrests in Hawaii are for running away—averaging 4,493 per year! These youths are at high risk for exploitation. Many trade sex for the resources they need for survival—food, money or a safe place to sleep. National statistics show a shocking severity: 33% of teens will be lured into prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home with the average age of entry into prostitution at 14 years old. Homeless youth are 11 times more likely to experience mental health problems.

We have a moral and civil obligation to address this growing tragedy of kids living on the streets in Hawai'i.

I urge your support for this bill as a way to live into our high calling of caring for the most vulnerable.

Blessings,
Rev. Brandon Duran

ROBERT K. MERCE
2457 Aha Aina Place
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821
808-732-7430

March 15, 2017

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services
State Capitol
415 South Beritania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing: HB 1195 HD 1
Committee on Human Services
Friday, March 17, 2017
Conference Room 016, 2:50 p.m.
STRONG SUPPORT

Dear Chair Green and Vice Chair Chang:

One of the biggest issues facing the State is whether to build a new jail on Oahu to replace OCCC. The Department of Public Safety estimates the cost of a new, 1200 bed jail at between \$433 million and \$675 million, depending on the location and whether it is a high rise or low rise building. That works out to between \$369,833 and \$562,500 per bed, and since each cell has two beds, the cost of a single, 2-man cell will range from \$739,666 to \$1.125 million, if costs do not exceed the initial projections (which they usually do).

Because jails cost so much to build, maintain, and operate, the trend throughout the nation is to reduce jail populations, and one of the most effective ways to do that is by diverting low level offenders to social services rather than incarcerating them. I have reviewed many, if not most, of the diversion programs in the country, and in my view none is more successful than law enforcement assisted diversion or LEAD. LEAD was started in King County, Washington, (Seattle area) in 2011 and allows law enforcement officer to redirect low-level offenders to community-based services, instead of jail and prosecution. It has an impressive history of successes, such as:

- **Recidivism.** Lead participants were 60% less likely than people in the control group to be arrested within the first six months of the LEAD evaluation. Over the entire course of the evaluation (October 2009 through July 2014) LEAD participants were 58% less likely than people in the control group to be arrested.
- **Housing.** LEAD participants were over twice as likely to be sheltered (e.g., permanent housing, temporary housing, emergency shelter, motel/hotel) versus unsheltered (e.g., sleeping on the streets, in abandoned buildings) during the 18 month

follow-up. Additionally LEAD participants were 89% more likely to obtain permanent housing during the follow-up, and each contact they had with their LEAD case manager translated to a 5% higher likelihood of being housed during follow-up.

- **Employment.** LEAD participants were 46% more likely to be on the employment continuum (i.e., in vocational training, employed in the legitimate market, retired) at follow-up versus baseline.

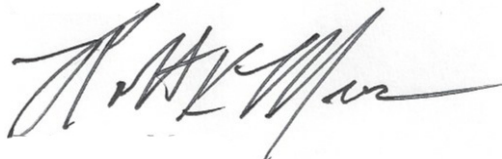
- **Income/Benefits.** LEAD participants were 33% more likely to have income/benefits at follow-up versus baseline.

LEAD has been so successful it is being replicated in other cities. After Seattle it was implemented in Sante Fe, New Mexico, followed by Albany, New York, Canton, Ohio, and Huntington, Virginia, with many other cities in various stages of evaluating or launching the program.

LEAD would allow Honolulu to build a smaller and less expensive jail, reduce jail costs, and by directing offenders to the services they need, it would start to break the vicious cycle of recidivism that is so prevalent in our state. And since even a few days in jail can increase the likelihood of a sentence of incarceration and the harshness of that sentence, LEAD would be a critical first step in reducing our prison population and reversing the trend toward mass incarceration.

I strongly support HB 1195 HD 1 and urge you to pass it with an appropriation that would allow Hawaii to begin implementing LEAD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. H. M.", is written over a faint, illegible printed name.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 2:31 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: marilynmick@pobox.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marilyn Mick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our prisons are full of non-violent offenders. Up to 51% of these cases are people being detained pre-trial. Programs like LEAD give police another option instead of arresting a person or ignoring a situation. Per the Honolulu Police Department: Of the 16,000 arrests made on Oahu last year, 61% involved people who were severely mentally ill or abusing drugs. These are people better served via LEAD than incarceration. Elsewhere, LEAD has led to big reductions in recidivism rates and better relations between law enforcement and the communities they serve. Aside from getting people into social services and substance abuse treatment, LEAD can be tailored to help people into housing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:56 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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March 15, 2017

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1195 RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS
Hearing on March 17, 2017, 2:50pm, Room 016

TO: Chair Josh Green, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Barbara Polk

I am testifying as an individual concerned about the money and time spent over the past decade or more on failed attempts to deal with homelessness. I strongly support HB 1195 which would appropriate funds for outreach, including the Law Enforcement Diversion Program (LEAD) and outreach and services for the mentally ill, substance abuse, families and youth.

The bill is comprehensive in its approach, with the focus on direct service to the target groups, rather than planning or central administrative functions. If adequately funded, it should begin to seriously address the needs of homeless individuals, as well as save the state money in the long run.

I am especially happy to see the LEAD program included, since it allows for diversion to services for individuals accused of low-level offenses, resulting in improved service to those individuals, as well as reducing the jail population. At times recently, more than 50% of the people held in OCCC have been pre-trial detainees, most of whom are charged with low level offenses and are there awaiting trial only because they cannot pay bail. Our jails should not become warehouses for people who are mentally ill or homeless. The LEAD program, as implemented in Seattle, has been highly successful in keeping offenders out of jail and setting them on a better path, by treating them as human beings, rather than as criminals. I look forward to the success of the program here as well.

I urge you to pass HB1195.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:25 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: dmcapati@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/16/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danmerle Capati	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of HB1195. The state of Hawai'i statistically, homelessness is on the rise and with homelessness comes issues with substance abuse. Treatment, services, and having them accessible is imperative in successful treatment for clients on the streets. Please support this bill as it will be of great help for the state of Hawai'i as a whole.

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I am in support of HB1195
jessica.actionwithaloha@gmail.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:14 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/16/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:56 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: jmanalo@actionwithaloha.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/16/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support HB1195

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I support HB 1195 HD1 which appropriates funds to DOH and DHS, and the office of youth services, to provide homeless outreach services.

According to the Honolulu Police Department, of the 16,000 arrests made on Oahu last year, 61% involved people who were severely mentally ill or abusing drugs. It is a wiser use of resources to handle many homeless issues outside the criminal justice system. Please pass this bill so we can restructure how the most vulnerable people in our community are treated so we can rehabilitate them to become productive members of society.

Mahalo for considering my testimony.

Nathan Yuen
91-23 Hanpaouli Cir #29T
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 10:18 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: jerolynl@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jerolyn laberinto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:33 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: lisastro@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Strother	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sen. Green and Sen. Chang,

I'm writing in support of HB 1195 which will provide a LEAD program. Homeless outreach, particularly LEAD, has been shown to be more cost effective and efficient in addressing homelessness than criminalization. I ask that you consider the evidence from experts that have experience working with homeless people. Please pass this bill and find a way to stop the wasteful, cruel criminalization of homelessness in Hawaii.

Thank you for hearing my testimony.

Aashish Hemrajani

Aashishhemrajani@yahoo.com

(818) 730-0060

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:16 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: wendygibson9@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1195 on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM*

HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Gibson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Dear Chair Green and Vice Chair Chang,

Thank you for scheduling a hearing for HB1195 HD1.

As citizen and public health professional, I am writing in strong support of the bill, especially the LEAD pilot program, which will keep our communities healthy and safe. I have been involved with discussions regarding LEAD since 2016, and I have learned that a diverse array of local stakeholders agree that this program would benefit our communities greatly. It will not only provide intensive, harm reduction based case management as an alternative to arrest, but also generate cost savings with less unnecessary citizens going through the expensive correctional system.

I have attached more information on LEAD, which is an integral part of this bill. As you can see, the LEAD hui in Hawaii includes 24 agencies dedicated to implementing the program with fidelity to the Seattle LEAD program. Fidelity to this program is important because the LEAD project uses comprehensive data collection and program evaluation to identify elements of effectiveness. Furthermore, LEAD will be an effective complement to other local diversion programs and the community outreach court without any duplication of services.

Please consider passing this bill with the LEAD pilot program intact.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,

Thaddeus Pham

1013 Prospect Street, #518

Honolulu, HI 96822

Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)



What is LEAD?

LEAD is a pre-booking or pre-arrest diversion program. In LEAD, low-level offenders for whom probable cause for arrest exists are diverted from arrest or booking by immediately referring them to harm-reduction, non-abstinence based, individualized case management.

Why is LEAD important?

LEAD was intended to demonstrate that non-coercive and non-punitive approaches to currently illegal activities such as drug use *and* other activities that individuals engage in to obtain funds to purchase drugs (e.g. car prowls, mail theft, prostitution, shoplifting) can be more effectively and humanely addressed outside of the criminal justice system.

What does LEAD offer?

LEAD offers individualized case management services. The types of services accessed are entirely determined by individual participants and their case manager. As noted the *only* requirement for being in LEAD is to complete an intake assessment within a specified period of time. After that the individual is free to walk away without repercussion.

Does LEAD work?

LEAD started in Seattle, WA in 2011 and was heavily evaluated.

- People in LEAD were 60% less likely than people in the control group to be arrested after being in LEAD
- 82% were homeless prior to participation and 40% were housed
- 55% received drug treatment through LEAD
- Over 35 jurisdictions are exploring or already implementing LEAD

Who is involved in LEAD?

LEAD involves a wide variety of stakeholders including the Mayor's Office, City Council members, the Attorney General's Office, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Police and Sheriff Departments, Public Safety, legislators and healthcare and social service providers and the community.

For more information, visit <http://leadkingcounty.org/>

LEAD Hawaii Hui

ACLU - Hawaii Chapter
CARE Hawaii
Community Alliance on Prisons
CHOW Project
Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii
Harm Reduction Hawaii
Harm Reduction Services Branch,
Hawaii State Dept. of Health
Hawaii Appleseed
Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition
Helping Hands Hawaii
Hina Mauka
Institute for Human Services
Ku Aloha ola Mau
Mental Health America of Hawaii
Partners in Care
PHOCUSED
The Salvation Army ATS-FTS
Susannah Wesley Community Center
We are Oceania

Want to see LEAD in Hawaii?
Join our hui!
Contact Heather at
husk@chowproject.org
or call 853-3292.

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HB1195

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HMS on Mar 17, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa McCraw	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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