



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

March 1, 2017

TO: The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

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

SUBJECT: HB 527 HD1 – RELATING TO MOBILE CLINICS.

Hearing: Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

POSITION: The Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness appreciates the intent of this measure and offers comments. Existing outreach service providers already provide a mobile health clinic, and the Coordinator asks the Legislature to support the Governor's Executive Budget request that support these services, particularly \$1.5 million in additional funding for homeless outreach; \$1 million for homeless individuals with serious and persistent mental health challenges; and \$800,000 for outreach and counseling services for chronically homeless persons with severe substance use disorders.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services (DHS) for establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.

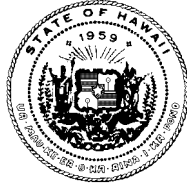
DHS Homeless Programs Office (HPO) currently contracts homeless outreach services with providers statewide, some of which offer mobile health services. In general, homeless outreach providers help connect unsheltered homeless individuals with basic needs, including medical care.

However, outreach is about more than just medical care, 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 provided by HPO contracted providers, 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's comprehensive 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 HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 1, 2017

TO: The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **HB527 HD1 – RELATING TO MOBILE CLINICS**

Hearing: Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this measure, the previous committee's work and recommendations, and provides comments that the measure as drafted adversely affects priorities set forth in the Governor's executive budget request and the State's plan to address homelessness. DHS respectfully requests that the Legislature support the \$1.5 million in additional funding for homeless outreach.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to appropriate an unspecified amount in general funds to establish, staff, and operate two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.

HPO currently contracts homeless outreach services with providers statewide, which may include health services. While the primary purpose of outreach providers is to help connect unsheltered homeless individuals with basic needs, referral to medical care is an important piece of this large puzzle.

Outreach 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.

The Executive Budget specifically increases resources for outreach. We respectfully ask for the Legislature's continued support of the Governor's Executive Budget, and that this measure be deferred.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

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

February 27 2017

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
And members of the Committee on Finance

Testimony in Support of HB 527 Relating to Mobile Clinics

Hawaii Youth Services Network, a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 527 Relating to Mobile Clinics.

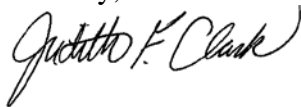
Hawaii's homeless population includes runaway and homeless youth who are living on the streets without support or guidance from their families. More than 40% were thrown out of their homes by their families. They are the most vulnerable segment of our homeless population because they are children who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

Homeless youth experience significant health challenges with which mobile clinics could assist. Compared to their peers, 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.
- About 50% of street youth have had a pregnancy experience.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

March 1, 2017 at 1:00pm
Conference Room 308

House Committee on Finance

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President – Government Relations & Community Affairs

Re: HB527 HD1 – Relating to Mobile Clinics: Testimony in Support

My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations and Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system, and the state's largest health care provider and non-governmental employer. Hawai'i Pacific Health is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals, more than 50 outpatient clinics and service sites, and over 1,600 affiliated physicians. Hawai'i Pacific Health's hospitals are Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital.

On behalf of Hawai'i Pacific Health, I write to testify in support of HB527 HD1 which appropriates funds to establish, staff, and operate two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.

Mobile clinics provide valuable preventative and primary care to the homeless population. Roughly two thirds of homeless individuals in Hawai'i relied on MedQuest to pay for health care services. Barriers to health care such as lack of insurance, housing, transportation, and primary care physicians result in the over-use of high-cost hospital emergency facilities as well as EMS. The homeless population's limited access to preventative and primary health care also results in many individuals waiting to seek treatment until their health conditions have reached extreme stages. The severity of homeless people's health conditions could be prevented and costs to the state minimized if mobile clinics offered basic preventative and primary care to O'ahu's homeless population.

For example, Waikiki Care-A-Van was meeting these needs of some of O'ahu's homeless population. Though the State funding for that organization has been pulled, the need remains. Hawai'i Pacific Health understands that our State is focusing on housing first, but until we reach our goal of providing housing to all homeless individuals, it is important to choose the most cost-effective ways of providing access to health care. HB527 HD1 improves access to health care for our homeless population

and decreases the cost to the State and to hospitals for providing necessary health care services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB527 HD1.



Hawai'i Psychological Association

For a Healthy Hawai'i

P.O. Box 833
Honolulu, HI 96808

www.hawaiipsychology.org

Phone: (808) 521-8995

Committee On Finance

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of HB527 HD1

Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 1:00 pm, Room 308

The Hawai'i Psychological Association (HPA) supports a modified version of HB527 HD1, which appropriates funds for establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.

The Hawaii Psychological Association strongly recommends inclusion of a clinical psychologist in the mobile clinic minimum staffing requirements. The homeless population suffers from extremely high rates of mental illness and a more comprehensive approach to their care is required. There is a strong body of scientific evidence that clearly demonstrates that psychotherapy along with medication is more effective than pharmaceutical intervention alone. The combination results in a faster, more complete and enduring response to treatment. Given the critical shortage of psychiatrists in the State of Hawaii, it is unlikely that any will have the time to provide more than medication management to the homeless population. Including a clinical psychologist on the team will allow for the provision of psychotherapy and will result in more effective treatment. In addition, if at some point psychologists are authorized to prescribe, the Department of Human Services will be able to select from a larger pool of available providers, with the advantage that prescribing psychologists will be able to offer the full-range of behavioral health services (psychotherapy and medication).


Including a clinical psychologist as a required member of the mobile staff will significantly improve treatment outcome and success. We support the bill with this recommended modification.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Folen, Ph.D., ABPP
Executive Director



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Finance


From: Paula Yoshioka, Senior Vice President, The Queen's Health Systems
Date: February 27, 2017
Hrg: House Committees on Finance Hearing; Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 1:00PM in Room 308

Re: **Support for HB 527 HD1, Relating to Mobile Clinics**

My name is Paula Yoshioka, and I am a Senior Vice President at The Queen's Health Systems (QHS). We would like to express my **support** for HB 527, HD1, Relating to Mobile Clinics. This bill would appropriate funds for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 respectively to purchase, staff, and operate two mobile clinics to service the homeless population.

At QHS we are committed to providing care for Hawaii's most underserved. This legislation recognizes the great cost that many health care providers take on to care for this vulnerable and underserved population. The costs to the entire continuum of care—from hospitals to long-term care facilities to home-based services—of treating the homeless population are large and growing. Mobile clinics would help to provide needed non-emergency medical care to homeless individuals in the community. Preventive services assist with mitigating many illnesses and go a long way to reducing the demand for high cost medical services down the road.

QHS shoulders majority of the burden of care for our homeless population in Hawaii. The Hawaii Health Information Corporation (HHIC) reports that our hospitals provided 64 percent of the care for homeless individuals with 10,459 encounters in FY15 as opposed to 5,381 encounters by all other facilities. Over 90 percent of the care QHS provided occurred in the emergency room setting. QHS experienced a net loss of \$10.6 million in FY15 providing unfunded and underfunded care for homeless patients.

I commend the legislature for introducing this measure and urge you to support it. Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 4:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: soito@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB527 on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM*

HB527

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Soito	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE



92-954 Makakilo Dr. #71, Kapolei, HI 96707 Email: RainbowFamily808@gmail.com Ph: (808) 779-9078 Fax: (808) 672-6347

DATE: February 28, 2017

RE: HB 527 HD1 Provide two Mobile Clinics for Homeless STRONG
SUPPORT

TO: House Finance Committee Hearing

Aloha House Representatives Luke, Cullen and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to **STRONGLY SUPPORT** HB 527 D1 for funding two Mobile Clinics and their operation for the underserved Homeless. Rainbow Family 808 is a support and resource organization that focuses on reaching out to all families in love, support and advocacy, for Homeless especially our Homeless Youth.

Rainbow Family 808 asks that HB 527 D1 be passed with sufficient funds to benefit our growing Homeless population. It is how we care for our Homeless that defines our humanity.

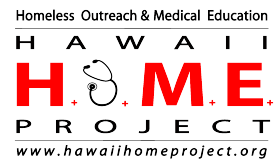
Please pass HB 527 D1 with sufficient funding to reach our Homeless in a manner that is respectfully in keeping with the Aloha State that we strive to be. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Martinez Golojuch, MSW
President and Co-Founder

HAWAII H.O.M.E. PROJECT

Homeless Outreach and Medical Education



LATE

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Finance

From: Jill Omori, MD, Director, Hawaii H.O.M.E. Project

Date: February 28, 2017

Hrg: House Committee on Finance; Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 1:00 pm in Room 308

Re: Support for HB 527, Relating to Mobile Clinics

My name is Jill Omori and I am the Director of the Hawaii Homeless Outreach and Medical Education (H.O.M.E.) Project. We would like to express our support for HB 527, Relating to Mobile Clinics, with the suggestion for some amendments.

The Hawaii H.O.M.E. Project, which is a program of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, provides mobile services to the homeless on the island of Oahu through four free clinics each week at seven different sites on the island. We provide acute, chronic, and preventative medical care, vaccines and TB testing, health education counseling, labs, minor procedures, and free medications for the uninsured. Our clinics service both sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals. We operate through a vast network of volunteer pre-health students, medical students, residents, and volunteer physicians.

We believe that what HB 527 is trying to accomplish is a much needed step towards addressing some of the healthcare needs for the homeless, however, we believe that the same goals could be attained at a much lower cost to the State through the utilization of mobile services that already exist. Instead of creating a new program and purchasing new vehicles, we hope that you will consider the option of providing this funding to programs such as ours that already have the infrastructure in place and the experience working with these populations. With additional funding, these existing programs would be able to expand their scope of service, provide more comprehensive high quality medical and social care, and could work towards reducing the current health care burden of the homeless population in our State.

With regards to the specific staffing requirements proposed in the bill, we do not believe that a nurse and pharmacist should be required, as other health care providers and/or volunteers can provide the same services. Currently, our clinics function fully as primary care clinics and dispense medications, without the presence of a nurse or a pharmacist.

In summary, we are certainly in support of increased funding for mobile medical, psychiatric, and social services for the homeless but hope that you will consider investing these funds into programs that are already providing these services.