



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

February 21, 2019

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

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

SUBJECT: HB713 HD1 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Hearing: Thursday, February 21, 2019, 11:00 a.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

POSITION: The Governor's Coordinator supports the intent of this measure and respectfully offers comments.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to establish a three-year Homeless Employment Grant Program that provides homeless individuals with public service work opportunities and connects them with service providers. The bill appropriates funds for the program and requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to submit a report to the legislature prior to the 2020 regular session.

Job training and apprenticeship programs are key strategies to assist homeless individuals in growing income and preventing returns to homelessness following housing placement. In 2009, the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) implemented a Job Training Program in partnership with the Next Step shelter in Kakaako. By providing custodial and maintenance jobs to Next Step residents, the program provided on-the-job training to homeless individuals and assisted with the maintenance and beautification of the park properties under HCDA's jurisdiction. Today, HCDA continues to contract with Next Step to maintain and perform custodial duties at Kakaako Waterfront Park, the Kakaako Gateway Parks, and Kewalo Basin Park. Since 2017, the County of Maui has funded and administered a similar program that employs homeless individuals to clean and maintain County sidewalks in Wailuku.

The Coordinator notes that this bill is modeled after a similar program in Albuquerque, New Mexico that is administered with the City of Albuquerque's Department of Solid Waste. In the Albuquerque program, the Department of Solid Waste hired homeless individuals to assist with landscape beautification and garbage removal, and provided the individuals with direct on-site supervision. While DHS administers a variety of employment and job training programs for public benefit recipients, these programs are more general in nature than the City of Albuquerque program that the Employment Grant Program is modeled after.

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

February 21, 2019

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

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 713 HD1 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 21, 2019, 11:00 a.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this bill, provides comments, proposes an amendment, and requests that any appropriation not supplant funding priorities identified in the Executive Budget. DHS requests an amendment to section 2. (b), to read as follows (see highlighted amendments):

"(b) The department of human services shall contract with a service provider or other qualified person or entity to administer the program; provided that the contract shall be exempt from chapters 103D and 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes."

PURPOSE: The purpose of HB 713 HD1 is to establish a 3-year Homeless Employment Grant Program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers. Requires DHS to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2020 Regular Session. Appropriates funds.

According to the National Alliance for Ending Homelessness, meaningful and sustainable employment is the key to creating and maintaining housing stability. Unemployment, underemployment, and low wages relative to rent are frequent causes of homelessness and burden millions of families with the risk of becoming homeless. Further, DHS

recognizes that there is not enough housing subsidy to sustain housing for everyone who may need assistance. Alternatively, working with participants to gain meaningful and sustainable income is one strategy to help fill in the gap.

DHS has a number of existing programs statewide that provide job training and opportunities available to homeless clients with children. Programs such as SEE Hawaii Work (<http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/see/>) assist families with children who receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/Temporary Assistance for Other Needy Families financial benefits, and the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), Employment and Training Program provides services for individuals who receive SNAP benefits. The City and County of Honolulu has the Rent to Work program, exclusive to individuals experiencing homelessness.

Homeless services agencies across the continuum have also recognized that securing or increasing income through employment will help place participants into permanent housing and keep them housed. The Institute of Human Services' (IHS) Hele2Work has been successful in providing complete services from an initial assessment to job placement. Hele2Work can be mobile and will meet the needs of participants. IHS continues to build relationships with employers in the community so that participants could gain access to jobs that pay more than the minimum wage.

Regarding section 2. (b), DHS recommends including chapter 103F – Purchases of Health and Human Services.

Also, DHS suggests that the Legislature consider that instead of creating additional programmatic processes and administrative expenses with a new program, that DHS be allowed to supplement the funding of existing outreach, skills building, and employment programs to increase program capacity and assist with the payment of course or equipment fees, job coaching, bus passes, or other items existing programs have identified that individuals may need to obtain and maintain employment.

However, at this time DHS requests that any appropriation not supplant funding priorities identified in the Executive Budget.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



SARAH ALLEN
ADMINISTRATOR
BONNIE KAHAKUI
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
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TESTIMONY
OF
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
FINANCE

Thursday, February 21, 2019, 11:00 am

HB713, HD1
RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB713, HD1. The State Procurement Office (SPO) provides the following comments to the bill due to the exemption language on page Section 2(b), pages 2 to 3, lines 19-20 and 1-2 set forth below:

(b) The department of human services shall contract with a service provider or other qualified person or entity to administer the program; provided that the contract shall be exempt from chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The SPO appreciates that pilot programs of a period of 3 years or less should be authorized an exemption to the procurement code for the purpose of actuating the mission within that period. In order to prevent the department from procuring exempt contracts for a period of performance beyond the pilot, the SPO recommends the following verbiage be added to Section 2(b):

“(b) The department of human services shall contract with a service provider or other qualified person or entity to administer the program; provided that the contract shall be exempt from chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes and where the period of performance of these contracts shall not exceed the 3 year term of the pilot program.”

The SPO further recommends that if in the administration of the program, additional subcontracts for direct services as defined in HRS 103F are required; then the bill should include an exemption from 103F and the period of performance of these contracts should not exceed the term of the pilot program.

The Hawaii Public Procurement Code (code) is the single source of public procurement policy to be applied equally and uniformly, while providing fairness, open competition, a level playing field, government disclosure and transparency in the procurement and contracting process vital to good government.

Public procurement's primary objective is to provide everyone equal opportunity to compete for government contracts, to prevent favoritism, collusion, or fraud in awarding of contracts. To legislate that any one entity should be exempt from compliance with both HRS chapter 103D and 103F conveys a sense of disproportionate equality in the law's application.

Exemptions to the code mean that all procurements made with taxpayer monies will not have the same oversight, accountability and transparency requirements mandated by those procurements processes provided in the code. It means that there is no requirement for due diligence, proper planning or consideration of protections for the state in contract terms and conditions, nor are there any set requirements to conduct cost and price analysis and market research or post-award contract management. As such, Agencies can choose whether to compete any procurement or go directly to one contractor. As a result, leveraging economies of scale and cost savings efficiencies found in the consistent application of the procurement code are lost. It also means Agencies are not required to adhere to the code's procurement integrity laws.

The National Association of State Procurement Officials state: "Businesses suffer when there is inconsistency in procurement laws and regulations. Complex, arcane procurement rules of numerous jurisdictions discourage competition by raising the costs to businesses to understand and comply with these different rules. Higher costs are recovered through the prices offered by a smaller pool of competitors, resulting in unnecessarily inflated costs to state and local governments."

When public bodies, are removed from the state's procurement code it results in the harm described above. As these entities create their own procurement rules, businesses are forced to track their various practices. Moreover, a public body often can no longer achieve the benefits of aggregation by using another public body's contract because different state laws and regulations may apply to the various public bodies making compliance more difficult.

Each year new procurement laws are applied to state agencies causing state agency contracts to become more complex and costly, while other public bodies, such as agencies with strong legislative influence, are exempted. Relieving some public bodies from some laws by exempting or excluding them from compliance with a common set of legal requirements creates an imbalance wherein the competitive environment becomes different among the various jurisdictions and the entire procurement process becomes less efficient and costlier for the state and vendors.

Thank you.



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

Testimony to the House Committee on Finance

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

Thursday, February 21, 2019, 11:30 AM – Agenda #1
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

by
Calvin Ching
Deputy Chief Court Administrator
First Circuit

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 713, House Draft 1 Relating to Homelessness, Homeless Employment Grant Program; Appropriation

Purpose: Establishes a 3-year Homeless Employment Grant Program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers. Requires the Department of Human Services to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2020 Regular Session. Appropriates funds. (HB713 HD1)

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary supports the creation of this program to provide homeless individuals with an opportunity to improve their lives through public service and increased access to essential social and quality-of-life services. The proposed Homeless Employment Grant Program would share many goals with the Judiciary’s growing Community Outreach Court program and would seek similar positive outcomes for its participants. This shared mission could provide a great opportunity for increased partnerships between the Judiciary and the Department of Human Services and enhance the ability of both agencies to implement and expand their homeless outreach efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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Rick Collins, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hawaii

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Collins Consulting, LLC

Domestic Violence Action Center EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action Network

Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Maui Youth and Family Services

Na Pu'uwai Molokai Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems

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

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

PHOCUSED

PFLAG – Kona Big Island

Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest and Hawaiian Islands

Residential Youth Services & Empowerment (RYSE)

Salvation Army Family Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community Center

The Catalyst Group

February 18, 2019

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

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 713 HD 1 RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 713 HD 1 Relating to Homelessness

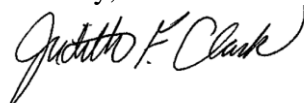
Homeless youth who are living on their own on the streets without support or guidance from their families are the most vulnerable segment of our homeless population. They are children who have not completed their education and lack employment experience.

While on the streets they have few options for meeting their basic survival needs. Homeless youth often trade sex for food, money or a place to sleep. They may be forced to eat food from garbage cans or panhandle.

An employment program would give them safer ways to meet basic needs while building the relationships and trust with support staff that will lead to leaving the streets. They would gain work experience that could lead to longer-term, competitive employment. And it would give them opportunities to contribute to their community by removing graffiti and litter.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

HB-713-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 3:39:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Goodman	Hawaii Kai Homeless Task Force	Support	No

Comments:

To: The Committee on Finance; Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair; Rep. Cullen, Vice Chair

From: Mike Goodman, Hawaii Kai Homeless Task Force; Member, Partners In Care

For: Hearing on Thursday, February 21, 2019, 11:00 AM, Conference Room 308, State Capitol

Re: HB713

Thank you Chair Rep. Luke, Vice Chair Rep. Cullen, and all Members of this Committee for the opportunity to testify *in strong support of HB713*.

Kudos to Rep. Chris Lee and all the co-introducers of this bill!

Providing a way for the homeless to earn income will supply them with far more than money.

As human beings, we need to have purpose in life to experience fulfillment. That's why the ability to earn sustenance through work promotes self-respect.

Amongst mental illness, substance addiction and abject poverty, homeless people lack self-esteem. This pilot program will pave the way for similar programs which are essential if we want the most desperate amongst us to become self-sufficient.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-713-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:24:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

HB-713-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 12:26:30 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stefani jeremiah	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

HB-713-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 5:34:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB713. The homeless need all the help they can get. Compassion aside, it will also help to reduce Hawaii's homeless problem.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei