



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Friday, April 5, 2019 10:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

by

Calvin Ching

Deputy Chief Court Administrator

First Circuit

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

Purpose: Establishes a three-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. Takes effect 1/1/2059. (SD1)

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.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

April 5, 2019

TO: The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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

SUBJECT: **HB713 HD1 SD1 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

Hearing: Friday, April 5, 2019, 10:15 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

POSITION: The Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness supports the intent of this measure, respectfully offers comments, and appreciates the amendments of the Senate Committee on Human Services to clarify that contracts between the Department of Human Services (DHS) and a service provider to administer the homeless employment grant program are exempt from section 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to establish a three-year Homeless Employment Grant Program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers. The bill also appropriates funds for the program, and requires 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.

HB-713-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 4:49:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2019 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick F. Hurney	Testifying for Habitat for Humanity Hawaii Island, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

Please support HB713!

Currently, NLIHC RATED Hawaii as the highest rate in the USA of Housing Wage at \$32.75 per hour in order to afford fair market rent. Our local families are pricing out of the housing market. We need to combat the affordable housing crisis now!

Mahalo

Patrick Hurney

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 904 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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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

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

April 3, 2019

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
And members of the Committee on Ways and Means

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 713 HD 1 SD 1 RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

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

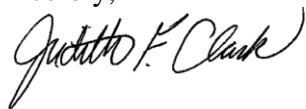
Homeless youth who are living on their own on the streets without support or guidance from their families are the most vulnerable segment of our homeless population. They are children who have not completed their education and lack employment experience.

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-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 6:05:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2019 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB713. Many in the homeless population can be helped if there are enough services to assist them.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

Kayla Burton

Friday, April 5, 2019

Support for HB 713 HD 1 SD 1, Relating to Homelessness

My name is Kayla Burton and I am a student enrolled in the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I strongly support HB 713 HD 1 SD 1, Relating to Homelessness, which would establish a three-year program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers.

Hawaii youth aging out of the foster care system often have limited life skills, opportunities, and social support; They must rely on themselves, and do not have the support that a family offers. Also, there are some instances where they have not attained their high school diploma or attained employment.

In an attempt to reduce the number of youth that age out of the system and end up on the streets, this program will provide these youth with employment opportunities and the means to get the services they deserve. The hope is that these youth will take advantage of this opportunity so that they are able to become self-sufficient.

By providing the youth with a three-year program that helps them navigate life and become contributing members to society, we are supporting the fact they all deserve guidance and direction in order to succeed. I humbly ask the committee to pass HB 713 HD 1 SD 1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

HB-713-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2019 4:01:45 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2019 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
karen bohner	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please support funds and services to our homeless crisis. Please schedule HB713 for hearing.

LATE

HB-713-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2019 10:22:55 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2019 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalamakahi Crabbe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha my name is Kalamakahi Crabbe,

I am a 7th grader at SEEQS public charter school and in STRONG SUPPORT for HB 713 because this would create a good opportunity for homeless people to clean up and get involved in our economy. To get a job to get them back on their feet and off the street. By doing this our neighborhoods become safer and cleaner. We get to see more employment and happier people. Thank you and Mahalo for your time!

Sincerely, Kalamakahi Crabbe