



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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

March 22, 2019

TO: The Honorable Representative Joy A. Buenaventura, Chair
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **HCR 97/HR 90 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO
ENTER INTO ADDITIONAL CONTRACTS WITH PROVIDER AGENCIES TO OPEN
ADDITIONAL HOMELESS SHELTERS IN WAIPAHU.**

Hearing: Friday, March 22, 2019, 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this resolution and offer comments.

PURPOSE: The purpose of HCR 97 and HR 90 is to request the Department of Human Services to enter into additional contracts with provider agencies to open additional homeless shelters in Waipahu.

DHS recognizes that there are no shelters in Waipahu that are state funded. DHS Homeless Programs Office (HPO) is currently re-procuring for Homeless Shelter Programs. State Homeless Shelters Request for Proposal (RFP) was posted on January 18, 2019.

To build more community capacity, DHS supports the current measure SB 398 SD1 HD1, that will require DHS and the State Procurement Office to establish and implement a training program on government procurement for community non-profits. It is important to build the capacity of community nonprofits so that more may participate in providing state funded homeless services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this resolution.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

March 22, 2019

TO: The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

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

SUBJECT: **HCR97 / HR90– REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO
ENTER INTO ADDITIONAL CONTRACTS WITH PROVIDER AGENCIES TO OPEN
ADDITIONAL HOMELESS SHELTERS IN WAIPAHU**

Hearing: Friday, March 22, 2019, 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

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

PURPOSE: The purpose of these resolutions is to request the Department of Human Services (DHS) to enter into additional contracts with provider agencies to open additional homeless shelters in Waipahu.

The Coordinator notes that DHS is currently in the process of procuring services for emergency and transitional shelter statewide. Organizations based in Waipahu and other communities were provided opportunity to respond to the Request for Proposals (RFP) for shelter services, which was posted on January 18, 2019.

The Coordinator has engaged in discussion with DHS and the State Procurement Office (SPO) to support training for nonprofit organizations to build the capacity of these organizations to compete for and provide homeless services. SB 398 SD1 HD1 appropriates funds to SPO to support a training program that will similarly strengthen nonprofit capacity related to homeless services.

In addition, the Coordinator and staff actively partner with HPD and other community organizations in Waipahu to provide linkages to shelter and housing in other parts of Oahu.

One example of this is the partnership between the Coordinator and the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) HELP Honolulu program. HELP Honolulu pairs HPD officers with State-contracted outreach providers who participate in coordinated outreach efforts that place individuals into emergency shelter or other longer-term placements (e.g. residential treatment, medical respite, etc.) with the assistance of the Coordinator and staff. For example, a HPD officer from the District 3 Community Policing Team recently encountered a homeless individual at Hans L'Orange Park that he identified during a HELP operation and worked with the Coordinator to place the individual into shelter at the City's Hale Mauiola navigation center.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HCR-97

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 10:20:37 PM

Testimony for HSH on 3/22/2019 8:30:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Chun	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair San Buenaventra and members of the committee,

Thank you for your consideration of this measure to urge the administration to provide additional resources to the Waipahu community to help individuals who are homeless. I want to thank the introducers of this measure for their efforts to highlight this issue in Waipahu.