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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHRONICALLY HOMELESS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. In 2015, the United States Department of  
2 Housing and Urban Development established a definition of  
3 "chronically homeless" for use in its homeless assistance  
4 programs. The purpose of this Act is to amend Hawaii's  
5 definition of "chronically homeless individual" to better align  
6 with the federal definition and reduce confusion among service  
7 providers, communities, and private partners.

8           SECTION 2. Section 346-378, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

10           "(e) As used in this section, "chronically homeless  
11 individual" means [~~a homeless individual who has an addiction or  
12 a mental illness, or both.~~]:

13           (1) A homeless individual having a mental illness,  
14           addiction, or physical disability who:

15           (A) Lives in a place not meant for human habitation,  
16           a safe haven, or an emergency shelter; and



1           (B) Has been homeless and living as described in  
2           subparagraph (A) continuously for at least twelve  
3           months or on at least four separate occasions in  
4           the last three years; provided that the combined  
5           occasions equal at least twelve months and each  
6           break in homelessness separating the occasions  
7           included at least seven consecutive nights of not  
8           living in places as described in subparagraph  
9           (A); provided further that stays in institutional  
10          care facilities for fewer than ninety days shall  
11          not constitute a break in homelessness, but shall  
12          be included in the twelve-month total if the  
13          individual was living in a place not meant for  
14          human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency  
15          shelter immediately before entering the  
16          institutional care facility;

17          (2) An individual who has been residing in an  
18          institutional care facility, including a jail,  
19          substance abuse or mental health treatment facility,  
20          hospital, or other similar facility, for fewer than



1           ninety days and met all of the criteria in paragraph  
2           (1) before entering that facility; or  
3        (3) A family with an adult head of household, or a minor  
4           head of household if there is no adult in the family,  
5           who meets all of the criteria in paragraph (1) or (2),  
6           including a family whose composition has fluctuated  
7           while the head of household has been homeless."

8           SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
9           matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
10          begun before its effective date.

11          SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
12          and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13          SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



S.B. NO. 2893  
S.D. 1  
H.D. 2

**Report Title:**

Chronically Homeless; Definition

**Description:**

Amends the definition of "chronically homeless individual" to provide clarity and improve the delivery and development of homeless services. (HD2)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

SB2893 HD2 HMS 2020-2143

