



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

March 11, 2019

TO: The Honorable Senator Russell E. Ruderman
Senate Committee on Human Services

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

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

Hearing: Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 016, 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

March 11, 2019

TO: The Honorable Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

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

Hearing: Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this bill and 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 the Department of Human Services to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2020 Regular Session. Appropriates funds. (HB713 HD1)

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
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

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TESTIMONY
OF
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
HUMAN SERVICES

Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:45 pm

HB713, HD1
RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Rhoads, 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 Senate Committee on Human Services

Senator Russell Ruderman, Chair

Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

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

March 11, 2019

Senator Russell Ruderman, Chair
And members of the Committee on Human Services

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

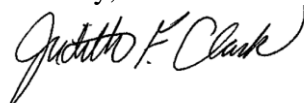
Homeless youth who are living on their own on the streets without support or guidance from their families are the most vulnerable segment of our homeless population. They are children who have not completed their education and lack employment experience.

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: 3/9/2019 11:44:14 PM

Testimony for HMS on 3/11/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

To: The Committee on Human Services, Senator Ruderman, Chair, Senator Rhoads, Vice Chair.

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

For: Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:45 PM Rm 016

Re: HB713

Thank you Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Rhoads, and all other Committee Members, for the opportunity to testify *in strong support of HB713*.

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.

This is in addition to the fact that Oahu is awash with graffiti and litter.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-713-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/7/2019 4:53:26 PM

Testimony for HMS on 3/11/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allix Hessick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I believe that we should pay attention to the needs of these people, who lack in job options at their education level, and need more accessibility to locations that they are legally allowed to work in. We shouldn't have to arrest them as the only way to secure taxabe revenue from them, and training programs, with transportation to health and housing and shelter, provides much longer lasting support to them, and stability is often all someone needs to get back on their feet.

TO: COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Russell E. Rudman, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

HEARING: Monday, March 11, 2019
2:45 pm.
Conference Room 016
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

FROM: Aimee Paahao

RE: Support for H.B. 713, HD1 Relating to The Homeless Employment
Grant Program.

Aloha, Senator Rudman and the Committee of Human Services

My name is Aimee Paahao and I am a Social Work Student at the University of Hawaii
Manoa Campus. I am in strong support of HB713, HD1. relating to Homeless Employment
Grant Program. I am testifying in favor of this bill.

The reasons why I am in support of this bill because, I have worked closely with the
homeless community at the River of Life Mission for three years, before entering college. I
have witnessed and talked to the guest that use the (ROLM) services, a woman who is
currently working at a supermarket and lives in a tent by IHS. She has her meals and takes a
shower at the (ROLM) before she goes to work daily. She is currently using a friend's address
so she can be employed. Others that I talked to are stuck because they don't have
identification, birth certificate or a social security card, and when they get all of these
documents the problem they have is a permanent address. They work at jobs that pay cash
and have many problems with being treated fairly or not getting paid what was agreed on.

I am in full support of HB713,HD1 and the Homeless Employment Grant Program. I hope this bill will be passed and can help the homeless community start living a better life.

HB-713-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/7/2019 8:01:43 PM

Testimony for HMS on 3/11/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kianna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From: Kianna Akazawa

Submitted on: March 7, 2019

Testimony in opposition of HB713 HD1, relating to homelessness

Submitted to HMS on 3/11/2019 at 2:45 pm in conference room 016

Aloha members of the committee,

I am a student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work writing to you today in support of HB713. I have seen our community make efforts to improve our homeless population, yet it seems as though it only keeps growing. I believe with the right implementation and the right standards of this act that it could potentially be successful. It may not be successful on the first try, but it is taking a different approach to all other improvement opportunities before. This approach to have the homeless help the homeless might also work in favor of the community as a whole in a type of domino effect. I think this act is worth a shot and if it is only somewhat successful, then it is not about giving up but taking what was successful and drawing up another plan.

Date: March 7, 2019

To: Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services

From: Ashley-Michelle K. Tilton

Re: Strong Support for HB713, Relating to Homelessness

Hrg: Monday, March 11, 2019 at 2:45 pm at Conference Room 016

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB713, which establishes a 3-year Homeless Employment Grant Program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers.

As a Master of Social Work student, I am personally invested in exploring ways to address homelessness in the state of Hawai'i. Growing up in this state, I have witnessed the overwhelming increase of individuals and families living on the streets. Despite the state's increased efforts in addressing homelessness, this issue is still very much apparent.

The use of sweeps and citations for the occupation of public spaces is both ineffective and inefficient in addressing homelessness. Rather than exacerbating the problem, HB713 will provide a means to directly address the barriers that prevent change for these individuals.

In my time as a social worker, I have heard many stories about the difficulties of securing a job for individuals who are homeless. In these stories, these individuals were not hired because they lacked a home address for paperwork, a reliable mode of transportation, and a cell phone. HB713 will address barriers like the ones above by providing temporary paying jobs. This aspect alone will benefit both the individual and the public. I've also been told that many individuals are unaware of the services, and when aware are unable to access them for various reasons. By working with community partners and service providers, HB713 will connect homeless individuals to the services they need.

While HB713 requires the appropriation of funds to pilot this program, it will improve the lives of individuals, families, and the general public. The passing of HB713 will demonstrate the state's commitment to creating a healthier Hawai'i as a whole.

Mahalo for taking the time to read my testimony,



Ashley-Michelle K. Tilton

HB-713-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/7/2019 11:46:27 PM

Testimony for HMS on 3/11/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eri Kitaji	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

I know there are many homeless people in Hawaii. Some people may say those people lost their jobs because they were lazy. However, some of those lost their jobs by other reasons, such as illness or injury. Everyone must have same opportunity to get a job to have safe life. Therefore, I agree with the bill.

HB-713-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 10:19:34 AM

Testimony for HMS on 3/11/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dara Carlin, M.A.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-713-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 11:01:05 AM

Testimony for HMS on 3/11/2019 2:45:00 PM

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 the "homeless problem" businesses regularly complain about.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei