

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



CATHY BETTS  
DIRECTOR  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

TRISTA SPEER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA  
Office of the Director  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 6, 2024

To: The Honorable Representative Lisa Marten, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair  
House Committee on Health & Homelessness

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 2325 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS.**

Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol & Video Conference

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this measure, provided that any appropriation does not reduce or replace priorities identified in the executive budget or any forthcoming Governor's messages.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds for the continued implementation of the return-to-home pilot program, established pursuant to Act 94, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023.

DHS is working with the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions (SOHHS) to implement the pilot program. SOHHS will monitor and take lead on the contract and move the program forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

**LATE**

**HB-2325**

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 2:53:32 PM

Testimony for HUS on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Greg Misakian	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Greg Misakian and I support HB2325.



**LATE**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of **John Mizuno**  
Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness  
Before the  
**House Committee's on Human Services/ Health and Homelessness**  
February 8, 2024  
9:30 a.m., Conference Room 329

In consideration of  
**House Bill No. 2325**  
**RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

Aloha Chair Marten, Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Amato, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of this measure, provided that any appropriation does not reduce or replace priorities identified in the executive budget or any forthcoming Governor's messages.

The Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions (SOHHS) is taking the lead on this pilot and will continue to work to implement this program. The return to home program has successfully reunited homeless individuals with their families on the continent and saves our state resources that can be redirected to local homeless individuals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo,

John Mizuno  
Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness

Wednesday February 7, 2024

Written Testimony

**Health and Homelessness Committee**

To: Representative Della Au Bellati, Chair  
Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

From: Chelseamay Pupuhi, RN

Re: **Testimony is Support**  
**HB 2325-Relating to Homelessness**



My name is Chelseamay Pupuhi, RN. I am a registered nurse residing on practicing on the island of Moloka'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of HB 2325**, which would reduce the the current homelessness crisis. Hawai'i already has a severe homelessness crisis. Support of this bill may help to ensure that the homeless/houseless residents of this state will get the help they need without the burden of incoming homelessness from the other states. Homeless individuals/families that come to Hawai'i should be given an opportunity to fly back to their home state for assistance, thus making more funding available for the current homeless/houseless residents of this state. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.