

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1408

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

July 7, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine Nakamura
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 7, 2025, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 613, H.D. 1, S.D. 1,
C.D. 1

RELATING TO HOMELESS YOUTH.
ACT 297

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D.".

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

on JUL 7 2025

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025
STATE OF HAWAII

ACT 297
H.B. NO. 613
H.D. 1
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOMELESS YOUTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. Act 130, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 130),
2 established a safe spaces for youth pilot program within the
3 department of human services. Act 130 will be repealed on June
4 30, 2025. The office of youth services has worked on planning
5 and developing the safe spaces for youth pilot program and, with
6 appropriations, recommends the pilot program become permanent,
7 and is ready to open the first state-funded shelter for young
8 adults on the island of Hawaii.

9 The purpose of this Act is to:

10 (1) Make the safe spaces for youth pilot program a
11 permanent program within the office of youth services;
12 and

13 (2) Provide funding for a permanent safe spaces for youth
14 program in the office of youth services.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 352D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
17 and to read as follows:



1 "§352D- Safe spaces for youth program; establishment;
2 reports. (a) There is established within the office of youth
3 services a safe spaces for youth program, which shall provide,
4 subject to the availability of funds, safe spaces in each county
5 for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness or at risk
6 of homelessness.

7 (b) The program shall collaborate with all departments of
8 the State and its political subdivisions that offer services for
9 the purpose of ensuring the well-being of youth and young adults
10 in Hawaii, including the department of education, department of
11 corrections and rehabilitation, department of health, department
12 of human services, department of land and natural resources,
13 department of law enforcement, state office on homelessness and
14 housing solutions, county police departments and other agencies,
15 and judiciary, to coordinate the identification of youth and
16 young adults who are experiencing homelessness, and placement of
17 these youth and young adults at a shelter for homeless youth or
18 young adults.

19 (c) The office of youth services may enter into contracts
20 with nonprofit organizations to provide services for youth or
21 young adults experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of



1 homelessness. Any nonprofit organization contracted under this
2 subsection shall have the knowledge, experience, and
3 qualifications, including licenses as needed for child caring
4 institutions, and other requirements to operate a shelter for
5 homeless youth or young adults experiencing homelessness or at
6 risk of homelessness. Youth under the age of eighteen shall not
7 be sheltered with young adults age eighteen to twenty-four.

8 (d) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a
9 shelter for homeless youth or young adults contracted under
10 subsection (c) may admit a youth into the shelter's care for up
11 to ninety days without the consent of the youth's parent or
12 guardian.

13 (e) The office shall submit a report pertaining to the
14 safe spaces for youth program to the legislature no later than
15 twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session.

16 (f) The office may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91
17 necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

18 (g) For the purposes of this section, "shelter for
19 homeless youth or young adults" means a facility that operates
20 to receive youth or young adults twenty-four hours a day, seven



1 days a week, and provide youth or young adults with services,

2 including:

3 (1) Overnight lodging and supervision;

4 (2) Hot meals and hot showers;

5 (3) Access to medical and behavioral health services; and

6 (4) Education and employment support."

7 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$871,016 or so much
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
10 \$1,841,016 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
11 year 2026-2027 for a permanent safe spaces for youth program
12 within the office of youth services.

13 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
14 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

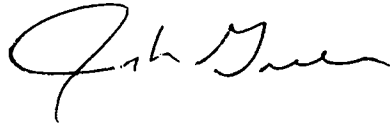
15 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.



H.B. NO. 613
H.D. 1
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 7th day of July, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Josh" and the last name "Green" clearly distinguishable.

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 613, HD 1, SD 1, CD 1

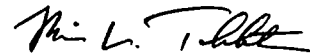
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 30, 2025
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025.



Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives

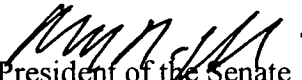



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Date: April 30, 2025
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate
of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2025.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate