

**ACT 34****H.B. NO. 17-S**

A Bill for an Act Making an Appropriation for Housing the Homeless.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many chronically-homeless persons who also are mentally-ill are difficult to reach through traditional services. Often, they are deeply suspicious of government motives, and reluctant to participate in programs that require extensive counseling or a case plan. It is essential, however, that these people be reached, provided shelter, and eventually brought into a trusting relationship that may enable future counseling and treatment.

The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for operating costs, including clerical staff, for a “safe haven” pilot project that provides essential services, including clinical staff, to the homeless mentally-ill without imposing strict program requirements. The long-term goal of the “safe haven” project is to establish a relationship with the homeless clients that will lead to their acceptance of counseling and treatment.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$30,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1995–1996, and \$30,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1996–1997, to provide operating funds for the “safe haven” pilot project for homeless, mentally-ill persons, including the hiring of necessary staff.

SECTION 3. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of health for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1995.

(Became law on August 15, 1995, without the Governor’s signature, pursuant to Art. III, §16, State Const.)