

**ACT 219**

S.B. NO. 2027

A Bill for an Act Relating to Appropriations to Address Homelessness.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the coordinated statewide homeless initiative provides important, cost-effective homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing services statewide and increases coordination through the state-

wide information and referral system on behalf of homeless individuals and those at risk of homelessness.

The coordinated statewide homeless initiative originated in April 2016 to help hundreds of families escape or avoid homelessness. According to Aloha United Way, since the program began, the program has helped more than one thousand four hundred households comprising four thousand eight hundred individuals. About three-quarters of households had been at risk of losing housing and the rest were already homeless. Of these numbers, sixty-four per cent included children.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys to continue and improve the coordinated statewide homeless initiative to prevent homelessness and rehouse homeless people in the State and to require the department of human services to procure services of a master contractor to manage subcontracts and expenditures for services provided through the initiative.

SECTION 2. (a) There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 to continue and improve the coordinated statewide homeless initiative.

(b) The following provisions shall apply to the appropriation under subsection (a):

(1) The department of human services shall:

(A) Procure the services of a master contractor to procure and oversee subcontracts for the provision of coordinated statewide homeless initiative services, in accordance with chapter 103D or 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes;

(B) Oversee the funds expended by the master contractor; and

(C) Develop policies and procedures for a fair and equitable procurement process for subcontracts made between the master contractor and subcontracted provider agencies which are consistent with the goals of public accountability and public procurement practices;

(2) The master contractor shall:

(A) Operate a coalition of agencies providing homeless diversion services for the State by providing short-term financial assistance to households that have entered the eviction process;

(B) Coordinate with the coordinated entry system mandated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide navigation services and placement of homeless households into permanent housing;

(C) At a minimum, provide quarterly reports to the house of representatives and senate committees on housing and human services, respectively;

(D) Develop reporting procedures and timelines for providing performance information to respective state agencies; and

(E) Be accountable for funds expended;

(3) The master contractor may retain administrative fees up to fifteen per cent in total from the amounts paid under the master contract between the master contractor and subcontractors; and

(4) The total sum of funding shall be provided at the start of the coordinated statewide homeless initiative program to be managed by the master contractor.

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

**SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

(Became law on July 10, 2018, without the governor's signature, pursuant to Art. III, §16, State Constitution.)