

ACT 65

S.B. NO. 2893

A Bill for an Act Relating to Chronically Homeless.

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

SECTION 1. In 2015, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development established a definition of “chronically homeless” for use in its homeless assistance programs. The purpose of this Act is to amend Hawaii’s definition of “chronically homeless individual” to better align with the federal definition and reduce confusion among service providers, communities, and private partners.

SECTION 2. Section 346-378, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) As used in this section, “chronically homeless individual” means ~~[a homeless individual who has an addiction or a mental illness, or both.]:~~

- (1) A homeless individual having a mental illness, addiction, or physical disability who:
 - (A) Lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter; and
 - (B) Has been homeless and living as described in subparagraph (A) continuously for at least twelve months or on at least four separate occasions in the last three years; provided that the combined occasions equal at least twelve months and each break in homelessness separating the occasions included at least seven consecutive nights of not living in places as described in subparagraph (A); provided further that stays in institutional care facilities for fewer than ninety days shall not constitute a break

in homelessness, but shall be included in the twelve-month total if the individual was living in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter immediately before entering the institutional care facility;

- (2) An individual who has been residing in an institutional care facility, including a jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital, or other similar facility, for fewer than ninety days and met all of the criteria in paragraph (1) before entering that facility; or
- (3) A family with an adult head of household, or a minor head of household if there is no adult in the family, who meets all of the criteria in paragraph (1) or (2), including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.”

SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun before its effective date.

SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved September 15, 2020.)