

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16, 2024

RE: H.B. No. 1852
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health & Homelessness, to which was referred H.B. No. 1852 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds as a grant-in-aid to the City and County of Honolulu to expand the services of the Crisis Outreach Response and Engagement Program to areas outside of urban Honolulu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Emergency Services Department of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that since it was created in December of 2021, the City and County of Honolulu's Crisis Outreach Response and Engagement (C.O.R.E.) Program has engaged seven hundred ninety-seven individuals, facilitated housing for fifty-two individuals, and addressed the needs of approximately three thousand clients. Your Committee further finds that the C.O.R.E. Program needs additional funding if it is to expand its services beyond its current level of service and assist individuals in crisis outside of urban Honolulu. Your Committee notes that a grant-in-aid is a specific term of art under existing law and may



not be the appropriate funding mechanism for the appropriation contemplated by this measure.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the manner in which funds are appropriated from a grant-in-aid to an appropriation from general revenues for an unspecified amount;
- (2) Clarifying that the expansion of Community Outreach Response and Engagement Program services is a continuation of the City and County of Honolulu's existing Community Paramedicine Program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it choose to deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation of \$3,500,000. Your Committee further respectfully requests your Committee on Finance to consider whether an appropriation can be made directly to the Emergency Services Department of the City and County of Honolulu, either through the executive budget or through this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1852, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1852, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health &
Homelessness,

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DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



