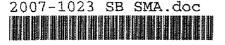
JAN 22 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State needs to
- 2 continue to fund emergency domestic violence shelters in order
- 3 to provide safe havens for women and their children made
- 4 homeless due to domestic violence. The rate of domestic
- 5 violence continues to increase, becoming one of the most
- 6 significant social problems facing the State of Hawaii.
- 7 According to the statistics provided by the Domestic Violence
- 8 Clearing House and Legal Hotline, the Honolulu Police
- 9 Department, the Sex Abuse Treatment Center, and the Hawaii State
- 10 Coalition Against Domestic Violence, in a population of
- 11 approximately one million people there is one death per month
- 12 due to domestic violence. Statewide, shelters serve
- approximately 1,000 adults and 1,100 children per year.
- 14 In response to the need to fund emergency domestic violence
- 15 shelters statewide, state moneys from the general fund provided
- 16 funding beginning in 2004. The moneys awarded to each of the
- 17 service areas, Kauai, Oahu: Leeward, Windward and Honolulu,



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S.B. NO. 1209

- 1 Maui including Lanai, Molokai and the Island of Hawaii (East and
- 2 West) since 2004 has remained fixed although the cost of
- 3 conducting business has increased severely in the State. Each
- 4 of the eight shelters is forced to pay the increased expenses
- 5 with the award given in 2004. Statewide, the shelters are
- 6 experiencing financial difficulties.
- 7 Shelters find that individual consumer needs have increased
- 8 dramatically since 2004. Families and individuals currently
- 9 entering shelter placement are affected by an inclusive menu of
- 10 issues, including substance use and addiction, mental health,
- 11 child abuse and neglect, homelessness, loss of income, lack of
- 12 employable skills, lack of parenting skills, and lack of medical
- 13 and dental care. The needs of the consumer have impacted
- 14 service delivery. Domestic violence advocates must be
- 15 thoroughly trained to meet the varying needs of the consumer
- 16 base so that the consumer may move from shelter placement to a
- 17 non-abusive living environment. In order for this to be
- 18 accomplished, additional moneys must be allocated to meet the
- 19 varying needs. Statewide shelters are finding it more and more
- 20 difficult to provide a high standard of service that will assist
- 21 the consumer's move towards stabilization.

S.B. NO. 1209

1 The legislature finds that without additional funding, 2 statewide emergency domestic violence shelters cannot meet the 3 needs of the community. 4 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for 5 emergency domestic violence shelters. 6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general 7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$762,500, or so much 8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the 9 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 10 2008-2009, for the support of eight statewide emergency domestic 11 violence shelters, as follows in each fiscal year: 12 (1) Windward Oahu \$160,000 13 (2) Leeward Oahu and Honolulu \$125,000 14 (3) Molokai \$62,500 15 (4) Maui \$115,000 16 (5) Kauai \$150,000 17 (6) East Hawaii \$62,500 18 (7) West Hawaii \$87,500. 19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department

of human services for the purposes of this Act.

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SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY: Frank Chun Carland.

Resely H Baker

Report Title:

Domestic Violence Shelters; Appropriation

Description:

Makes appropriation for emergency domestic violence shelters.