HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE, 2011 STATE OF HAWAII H.R. NO. 96

HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO DESIGNATE AALA PARK AS A HOMELESS SAFE ZONE.

WHEREAS, homelessness is the second biggest problem of the 1 State of Hawaii, and the causes of homelessness are complex, 2 3 requiring a comprehensive approach; and 4 WHEREAS, Aala Park is located between North Beretania 5 Street, North King Street and River Street, and is bordered by 6 Chinatown, which the homeless frequent, and is a few blocks from 7 8 the Institute for Human Services, which offers free meals 365 9 days per year; and 10 WHEREAS, Aala Park was once a homeless safe zone during the 11 Fasi Administration; and 12 13 14 WHEREAS, Aala Park is equipped with restrooms and a water fountain, and homeless in the area have kept the surroundings 15 16 clean; and 17 WHEREAS, some homeless do not feel comfortable in, or have 18 been banned from area homeless shelters; and 19 20 21 WHEREAS, until the economy improves and shelter becomes affordable for all, we, as a society owe safe havens to those 22 who are not able to find shelter; and 23 24 WHEREAS, safe zones are an alternative for those who will 25 not, or cannot live in a structured facility, such as a homeless 26 shelter or transitional housing, but are comfortable in open 27 areas; and 28 29 WHEREAS, safe zones are a fancy free lifestyle ideal for 30 those who prefer to live outdoors; now, therefore, 31



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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, that the Mayor and the City Council of the City and County of Honolulu are urged to designate Aala Park as a safe zone for the homeless; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of
Honolulu, Chairperson of the City Council of the City and County
of Honolulu, and Director of the Department of Human Services,
the Chinese Merchants Association.

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OFFERED BY:

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