HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING EFFORTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ASSIST IN FINDING OPPORTUNITIES AND SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS IN HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that homelessness is an immediate and pressing problem for many individuals and families in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the homeless population is a diverse group that includes individuals who are in need of specialized services to address chronic mental and physical illnesses as well as substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, the homeless population also includes individuals, such as veterans or parents with young children, who are in need of specialized social support resources or innovative services tailored for their individual needs; and

WHEREAS, homelessness is a mutual concern among state and federal agencies, community programs and foundations, and the business community, including many non-governmental organizations that deliver pivotal services to the homeless by providing meals, job training and placement, and early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature is striving to address long-term solutions to homelessness, including repairing or building public housing units, providing housing subsidies and services, and creating employment and job training programs; and

WHEREAS, non-governmental organizations are often able to organize quickly to aid the homeless and leverage funding from public and private sources to help those less fortunate; and

WHEREAS, many Hawaii organizations currently assist homeless individuals by providing meals, training, jobs, and other services without seeking special recognition for their efforts; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature supports and applauds the efforts by non-governmental organizations that assist in finding opportunities and solutions to address homelessness in Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, the Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, the Director of Human Services, the Chief Executive Officer of the Affordable Housing and Homeless Alliance, the President of Hawaii Youth Services Network, and the Executive Director of U.S. Vets Hawaii.

OFFERED BY: Frederichin

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