A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A HOMELESS PERSON'S BILL OF RIGHTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by 2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read 3 as follows: 4 "CHAPTER 5 A HOMELESS PERSON'S BILL OF RIGHTS 6 -1 Bill of rights; established. (a) There is created 7 a homeless person's bill of rights to quarantee that the rights, 8 privacy, and property of homeless persons are adequately 9 safeguarded and protected under the laws of this State. The 10 rights afforded homeless persons to ensure that their person, 11 privacy, and property are safeguarded and protected, as set 12 forth in subsection (b), are available only to the extent that 13 they are implemented pursuant to the laws of this State and the 14 federal government. For purposes of this section, "homeless 15 person" shall have the same meaning as "homeless" in section 16 346-361.

Every homeless person in this State shall have the

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right to:

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1	(1)	move freely in public spaces, including on public
2		sidewalks, in public parks, on public transportation,
3		and in public buildings without harassment or
4		intimidation from law enforcement officials, in the
5		same manner as other persons;
6	(2)	Have equal opportunities for employment;
7	(3)	Receive emergency medical care;
8	(4)	Register to vote and to vote;
9	(5)	Have personal information protected;
10	(6)	Have a reasonable expectation of privacy in one's
11		personal property;
12	(7)	Receive equal treatment by state and county agencies;
13		and
14	(8)	Freely accept or deny shelter or services from any
15		state or county agency.
16	(c)	Each county may post in a usual location for county
17	notices a	notice entitled "A HOMELESS PERSON'S BILL OF RIGHTS"
18	that conta	ains the text set forth in subsection (b).
19	(d)	Any person injured by a violation of this section may
20	bring a c	ivil action for appropriate injunctive relief or
21	declarato:	ry relief and for damages sustained by the person, and
22	if the jud	dgment is for the plaintiff, the plaintiff shall be

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- 1 entitled to recover actual damages and reasonable attorney's
- 2 fees."
- 3 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY

JAN 2 9 2015

H.B. NO. 1322

Report Title:

Homeless Persons; Bill of Rights

Description:

Establishes a homeless person's bill of rights. Allows a person to obtain injunctive or declaratory relief, damages, and reasonable attorney's fees for a violation of these rights.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.