

---

---

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS.

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

1           SECTION 1. Homelessness is an issue affecting numerous  
2 individuals throughout the country. To promote coordinated and  
3 systemic strategies to address the issues facing homeless  
4 individuals, the federal Department of Housing and Urban  
5 Development requires state and local grant agencies and  
6 organizations to establish continuums of care, which are  
7 regional or local planning bodies that coordinate housing,  
8 services, and funding for homeless families and individuals.  
9 Nationwide, continuums of care and their member agencies receive  
10 significant federal funding, which is often critical to maintain  
11 necessary services. To remain eligible for federal funding, the  
12 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development  
13 requires continuums of care to conduct an annual point-in-time  
14 count of homeless individuals who are in both sheltered and  
15 unsheltered environments on a single, given night. The point-  
16 in-time count, which is essentially a nationwide census of  
17 homeless individuals, is important because it aids the federal



1 Department of Housing and Urban Development in determining the  
2 amount of federal funds given to each state's continuum of care  
3 agencies.

4 Point-in-time surveys are labor intensive and require large  
5 numbers of canvassers to make direct contact with individuals  
6 from a population that is inherently mobile and who may be  
7 present in locations that are hard to find and hard to access.  
8 The point-in-time count is conducted once a year, over the  
9 course of one week, and currently relies on canvassing by  
10 service providers who agree to donate their time outside of and  
11 in addition to their regular duties and community volunteers.  
12 Difficulty in recruiting adequate numbers of volunteers has made  
13 it difficult to obtain accurate information on homelessness in  
14 the State, which jeopardizes Hawaii's receipt of federal funds.

15 The legislature finds that offering a stipend to volunteers  
16 who assist with the point-in-time count will help ensure that  
17 the count is conducted appropriately to produce accurate results  
18 as required for continued eligibility for federal funding.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
20 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
21 and to read as follows:





H.B. NO. 1445

John A. Puntieri  
DeWitt  
W. J. ...

Gregory ...

Mark J. Hill

Greg M. ...

... ..

Ken ...

De Hlt

Paul ...

JAN 25 2017



# H.B. NO. 1445

**Report Title:**

Homelessness; Point-in Time Counts; Volunteer Stipend

**Description:**

Requires the offering of a stipend to volunteers assisting in the point-in-time count conducted to determine the number of homeless individuals in the State as a condition of continued eligibility for federal funding.

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

