Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 1 5 2017

RE: S.B. No. 964

S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Twenty-Ninth State Legislature Regular Session of 2017 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 964 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMELESS SHELTERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish that emergency shelters may provide partitioned space for homeless persons or families based upon guidelines determined by the Department of Human Services; and
- (2) Extend the effective date of Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, by one year to provide additional time for the Department of Human Services to implement the Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, Department of Human Services, Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that homelessness continues to be one of the State's most significant and challenging social problems. In an attempt to make the homeless shelter system more cost effective and more appealing to families and individuals, the Legislature enacted Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, to establish minimum requirements for every homeless emergency shelter operated by a provider agency that is under contract with the Department of Human Services. However, there is wide variation in the

2017-1283 SSCR SMA.doc



configuration of homeless emergency shelters across the State. Because homeless emergency shelters need sufficient flexibility to address the diverse needs of homeless individuals and families across the State, it is critical that the Department of Human Services allows enough time for homeless emergency shelters to bring shelter space into compliance with the Department's requirements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of June 30, 2017; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 964, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 964, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Human Services,

JOSH GREEN. Chair

## The Senate Twenty-Ninth Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

## Record of Votes Committee on Human Services HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:		Da	Date:	
SB 964	HMS, WAM		0	02/08/17	
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GREEN, Josh (C)					
CHANG, Stanley (VC)					
HARIMOTO, Breene					<b>S</b>
TOKUDA, Jill N.					7
WAKAI, Glenn					
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TOTAL		3			2
Recommendation:  Adopted  Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

Revised: 12/2/16

<sup>\*</sup>Only one measure per Record of Votes