

JAN 25 2017

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS.

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

**PART I**

1  
2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that homelessness  
3 continues to be one of the State's most significant and  
4 challenging social problems. According to the 2016 Hawaii  
5 statewide homeless point-in-time count conducted in January  
6 2016, there are 7,921 homeless individuals in the State, an  
7 overall increase of four per cent from 2015. Homeless persons  
8 face a myriad of issues, including general health issues, mental  
9 illness, and substance abuse. These issues affecting homeless  
10 persons also impact the general population through the costs of  
11 social and health care services. In fiscal years 2014 and 2015,  
12 The Queen's Medical Center reported treating 3,441 patients who  
13 were homeless. Treating these homeless individuals is sometimes  
14 uncompensated, as is the case with an unsheltered patient who  
15 reportedly received treatment 12,271 times over two years, which  
16 cost The Queen's Medical Center more than \$5,000,000 per year.



1           The legislature further finds that mobile clinics are  
2 increasing in popularity across the nation as government  
3 entities find ways to address the health care needs of the  
4 homeless population. In places such as Denver, Colorado;  
5 Seattle, Washington; and San Jose, California, mobile clinics  
6 offer a variety of free health care services for local homeless  
7 populations, saving significant costs on emergency room visits.

8           The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds for  
9 establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to  
10 serve the homeless population.

11           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,400,000 or so much  
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the  
14 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
15 2018-2019 to purchase, staff, and operate two mobile clinics to  
16 serve the homeless population; provided that:

17           (1) The staff shall include, at minimum, one doctor, one  
18 nurse, one pharmacist, and one psychiatrist and may  
19 include staff as needed, including students pursuing a  
20 degree in medicine or nursing; and





1           SECTION 3. The legislature finds that the need for  
2 specialty shelters has grown over the years as homelessness has  
3 evolved. Homeless persons have few options to receive home  
4 care, mental health stabilization, a recovery environment for  
5 substance use disorders, or other support when they leave an  
6 acute treatment environment. Specialty shelters double as  
7 housing navigation centers wherein staff will assist homeless  
8 persons to access housing after their stay at the shelter.

9           The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds for  
10 specialty shelters to temporarily house and serve homeless  
11 persons.

12           SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,350,000 or so much  
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the  
15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
16 2018-2019 to establish two substance abuse specialty shelters  
17 and one mental health specialty shelter to provide temporary  
18 housing and specialized homecare services for homeless  
19 individuals.

20           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
21 of human services for the purposes of this part.



**PART III**

1  
2 SECTION 5. The purpose of this part is to appropriate  
3 funds to study the impact and feasibility of creating an  
4 integrated database with certain records of homeless individuals  
5 for providers of homeless services to track services and  
6 optimize costs.

7 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$250,000 or so much  
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the  
10 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
11 2018-2019 for the department of human services to conduct a  
12 study on the impact and feasibility of creating an integrated  
13 database for providers of homeless services that provides access  
14 to certain information about homeless individuals served,  
15 including police, medical, social services, and mental health  
16 records, to improve tracking services provided and optimize  
17 costs.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
19 of human services for the purposes of this part.

**PART IV**



1 SECTION 7. (a) The governor shall establish puuhonua safe  
2 zones where homeless persons may reside in the State.

3 (b) The location of each puuhonua safe zone shall be  
4 designated by the land use commission.

5 (c) Each puuhonua safe zone shall be furnished with  
6 appropriate hygiene facilities and security and social services  
7 as deemed necessary.

8 (d) The peaceful consumption of alcoholic beverages by  
9 persons twenty-one years of age or older shall be permitted in  
10 puuhonua safe zones.

11 (e) Animal companions of homeless persons shall be  
12 permitted in puuhonua safe zones.

13 (f) The governor shall maintain and operate puuhonua safe  
14 zones until the legislature determines that homelessness is no  
15 longer a crisis in the State.

16 (g) The governor may delegate the duties and  
17 responsibilities established pursuant to subsections (a), (c),  
18 and (f), of this part to an executive agency.

19 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general  
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and



1 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
2 year 2018-2019 for the establishment of puuhonua safe zones  
3 where homeless persons may reside in the State.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
5 the governor for the purposes of this part.

6 **PART V**

7 SECTION 9. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and  
10 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
11 year 2018-2019 for homeless outreach services.

12 SECTION 10. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and  
15 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
16 year 2018-2019 for the storage of homeless people's property.

17 SECTION 11. The sums appropriated in this part shall be  
18 expended by the department of human services for the purposes of  
19 this part.

20 **PART VI**



1 SECTION 12. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and  
4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
5 year 2018-2019 for outreach services to homeless persons with  
6 serious and persistent mental illness.

7 SECTION 13. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and  
10 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
11 year 2018-2019 for outreach, counseling, and diversion services  
12 for unsheltered homeless persons experiencing substance abuse.

13 SECTION 14. The sums appropriated in this part shall be  
14 expended by the department of health for the purposes of this  
15 part.

16 **PART VII**

17 SECTION 15. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
19 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and  
20 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
21 year 2018-2019 to assist the highways division of the department



1 of transportation to deal with homelessness-related issues  
2 pertaining to security, health, and safety.

3 The sums appropriated in this part shall be expended by the  
4 department of transportation for the purposes of this part.

5 PART VIII

6 SECTION 16. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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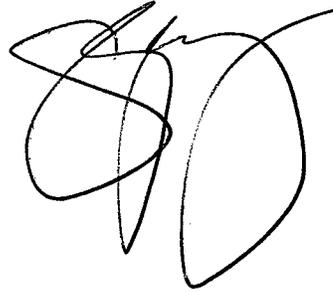
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S.B. NO. 1223

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# S.B. NO. 1223

**Report Title:**

Homelessness; Omnibus; Homeless Services; Appropriation

**Description:**

Part I: Appropriates funds for establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population. Part II: Appropriates funds for establishing three specialty shelters to temporarily house and serve homeless individuals. Part III: Appropriates funds to the department of human services to study the impact and feasibility of creating an integrated database of certain information related to homeless individuals for providers of homeless services. Part IV: Requires the governor to establish puuhonua safe zones where homeless persons may reside. Appropriates funds. Part V: Appropriates funds for homeless outreach services and storage of homeless people's property. Part VI: Appropriates funds for outreach services to homeless persons with serious and persistent mental illness. Appropriates funds for services for homeless persons experiencing substance abuse. Part VII: Appropriates funds to assist the department of transportation with homelessness-related issues pertaining to security, health, and safety.

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