
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU AND HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ADDRESS THE ONGOING HOUSELESSNESS CRISIS AND DEVELOP SOLUTIONS FOR PROVIDING CARE AND SERVICES FOR THESE INDIVIDUALS WHILE ENSURING COMMUNITY SAFETY.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii has one of the highest rates of
2 homelessness in the nation, with forty-six out of every ten
3 thousand people in Hawaii being reported as homeless; and
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5 WHEREAS, in addition to posing a direct risk to the health
6 and safety of affected individuals, homelessness also serves as
7 an added stressor or contributing factor in many crimes; and
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9 WHEREAS, as of September 30, 2021, the 'Ohana Zone program
10 has served five thousand sixty-seven individuals and placed
11 eleven hundred twenty-nine individuals into permanent housing;
12 and
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14 WHEREAS, the Homeless Outreach and Navigation for
15 Unsheltered Persons (HONU) program is a mobile facility that
16 provides short-term shelter services and navigation to connect
17 homeless individuals and families to longer-term sheltering and
18 other housing options; and
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20 WHEREAS, HONU is funded through the 'Ohana Zone program and
21 operated by the City and County of Honolulu's Department of
22 Community Services in conjunction with the Honolulu Police
23 Department; and
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25 WHEREAS, HONU will rotate through multiple locations on
26 Oahu for a maximum of ninety days at a time; and
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28 WHEREAS, establishing sites to provide HONU services in
29 each City Council district on Oahu and extending the time HONU
30 operates in each site would increase access to transitional
31 services for unsheltered persons; and



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2 WHEREAS, there is a growing concern about violent crime
3 committed by unsheltered persons; and
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5 WHEREAS, a three strikes program would allow police to
6 detain an individual with a record of committing violent crimes;
7 and
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9 WHEREAS, Weed & Seed Hawai'i, Inc., is a community-based
10 organization that works with law enforcement to reduce crime in
11 communities and develop community solutions to crimes in
12 neighborhoods; and
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14 WHEREAS, Weed & Seed Hawai'i has site programs located in
15 downtown Honolulu, Waipahu, and Ewa Beach; and
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17 WHEREAS, homelessness is a multifaceted issue and expanding
18 various existing initiatives that target specific elements of
19 the homeless crisis, particularly better access to services and
20 reducing crime, is an important step in addressing homelessness
21 in Hawaii; now, therefore,
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
25 of 2022, that the City and County of Honolulu and Honolulu
26 Police Department are requested to address the ongoing
27 homelessness crisis and develop solutions for providing care
28 and services for these individuals while ensuring community
29 safety; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City and County of Honolulu
32 and Honolulu Police Department are further requested to
33 establish HONU sites in each City Council district on Oahu and
34 extend the time HONU operates in each site beyond ninety days;
35 and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Police Department
38 is requested to implement a three strikes program to allow for
39 the detention of an unsheltered person with a record of three or
40 more counts of assault; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Police Department
2 is further requested to work with Weed & Seed Hawai'i, Inc., to
3 develop community policing solutions to address violent crime
4 committed by or occurring within the homeless population in the
5 Waianae Coast community; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of
9 Honolulu, Interim Chief of Police of the Honolulu Police
10 Department, and President of Weed & Seed Hawai'i, Inc.

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12
13 OFFERED BY:



MAR 11 2022

