



## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

MEDIA RELEASE  
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### **Governor Signs Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness Bill into Law**

HONOLULU- Governor Neil Abercrombie signed Senate Bill 2804 into law on June 8, 2012. The measure establishes the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness under the Department of Human Services. The Council will identify critical strategic goals and initiatives that would mitigate homelessness as well as ensure that homeless persons obtain permanent housing and become reintegrated into the community.

“I am glad that the Governor signed this bill into law to further help one of the most vulnerable populations in our State. Because Homelessness is a multifaceted and complex matter, one of the functions of the Council is to work collaboratively with various organizations to find ways we can better serve and assist individuals and families,” said Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, chair of the Senate Committee on Human Services.

Under the law, the Department of Human Services is required to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing safe havens in Hawaii and to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the convening of the 2013 Regular Session. The law goes into effect on July 1, 2012.

The governor also named Colin C. Kippen as the new Coordinator on Homelessness today.

(Photo Courtesy: Senate Communications)

(Photo Caption: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland joins Governor Abercrombie for the signing of Senate Bill 2804 into law.)

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