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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that homelessness is a  
2 major ongoing social issue with significant root causes,  
3 including issues related to health care, education, safety,  
4 living and work environments, and housing. Addressing  
5 homelessness in the State requires several approaches, including  
6 timely administration of appropriate housing and human services.

7           The legislature further finds that homeless individuals  
8 often remain on private property, which can make it more  
9 difficult for homeless service providers to assist these  
10 individuals. If a homeless individual is on private property, a  
11 homeless service provider first needs to obtain permission from  
12 the private property owner, who may be difficult to find, before  
13 entering the property. This can result in a delay in connecting  
14 a homeless individual to much-needed housing and human services.

15           The purpose of this Act is to help ensure that homeless  
16 service providers are able to administer homeless services in a  
17 timely manner by:



- 1           (1)    Requiring the governor's coordinator on homelessness  
2                   to collect and maintain a database of private property  
3                   owners who give prior consent for homeless service  
4                   providers to enter an owner's private property, for  
5                   purposes of administering homeless services to a  
6                   homeless individual located on that private property;  
7                   and  
8           (2)    Exempting homeless service providers from civil and  
9                   criminal liability that may result from the  
10                  administration of homeless services.

11           SECTION 2. (a) The governor's coordinator on homelessness  
12 shall collect and maintain a database of private property owners  
13 who give prior consent for homeless service providers to enter  
14 an owner's private property, for purposes of administering  
15 homeless services to a homeless individual located on that  
16 private property.

17           (b) The governor's coordinator on homelessness shall  
18 submit a progress report on the database and the coordinator's  
19 associated findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
20 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
21 to the convening of the regular session of 2023.



1 (c) Regardless of whether prior consent by a private  
 2 property owner was obtained, any homeless service provider that  
 3 enters a private property to administer homeless services to a  
 4 homeless individual shall be exempt from civil and criminal  
 5 liability for any injury or damage resulting from the homeless  
 6 service provider's administration of homeless services, except  
 7 for gross negligence or wanton acts or omissions on the part of  
 8 the homeless service provider.

9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
 10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
 11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for  
 12 outreach related to the collection and maintenance of the  
 13 database of private property owners' consent established  
 14 pursuant to this Act.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
 16 human services for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.  
 18

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 20 2022



# H.B. NO. 1581

**Report Title:**

Homelessness; Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness; Private Property; Private Property Owners; Liability; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the governor's coordinator on homelessness to collect and maintain a database of private property owners who give prior consent for homeless service providers to enter an owner's private property, for purposes of administering homeless services to a homeless individual located on that private property. Requires a report to the legislature. Exempts homeless service providers from civil and criminal liability that may result from the administration of homeless services. Appropriates funds.

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

