
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that according to the
2 2019 Hawaii Housing Planning Study, there is a shortage of
3 10,457 housing units for households with incomes below thirty
4 per cent of the area median income. For a family of three, this
5 translates into an annual income between \$0 and \$34,000; many
6 individuals in this income group require supportive housing
7 services.

8 The legislature further finds that many individuals and
9 families with extremely low incomes include older adults; people
10 with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities;
11 substance abusers; young adults aging out of foster care; people
12 completing prison terms; people with mental health issues; and
13 people experiencing homelessness.

14 The legislature further finds that a system is not in place
15 to address the supportive housing needs in each county.
16 Extremely low-income individuals and families should have the
17 opportunity to live in safe, decent, and stable housing with



1 dignity and independence, and establishing a system will prevent
2 homelessness and costly institutional care in hospitals,
3 prisons, and long-term care facilities.

4 Due to access and functional needs, individuals require
5 various levels of care to carry out the activities of daily
6 living, transition into the community, find suitable employment,
7 or all the above. The Corporation for Supportive Housing has
8 estimated the need for 3,888 housing units of supportive housing
9 in the State.

10 The legislature further finds that Act 39, Session Laws of
11 Hawaii 2018 (Act 39), requested the Hawaii Housing Finance and
12 Development Corporation to obtain information on supportive
13 housing needs throughout the State. Based on feedback from
14 thirty agencies, the study found that there are 37,031
15 individuals with access and functional needs without housing.
16 The majority in need of housing, eighty-one per cent, are on the
17 island of Oahu. Individuals who were homeless or in an
18 emergency shelter had the highest housing need, at fifty-five
19 per cent, followed by individuals with physical or severe mental
20 disabilities, at twenty-eight per cent. The study results were
21 limited because agencies had different data systems and capacity



1 to track housing need information. The study therefore
2 recommended convening of a work group with representatives from
3 key sectors to develop a new monitoring and forecasting system.

4 The purpose of this Act is to establish a supportive
5 housing task force to improve data collection on supportive
6 housing needs, bring stakeholders together to develop a roadmap
7 for implementing supportive housing, address financing
8 opportunities, bridge housing developers with supportive housing
9 service providers, and develop best practices.

10 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a supportive housing
11 task force to be placed within the department of human services
12 for administrative purposes.

13 (b) The supportive housing task force shall:

14 (1) Determine the number of housing units needed for each
15 county for individuals with access and functional
16 needs, including individuals with substance use
17 issues; mental illness; intellectual or developmental
18 disabilities; chronically homeless individuals;
19 homeless families; child welfare families; young
20 adults aging out of foster care; adults completing
21 prison terms; and the elderly;



- 1 (2) Agree on housing production and supportive housing
2 service goals;
- 3 (3) Develop a plan to secure funding for capital
4 improvements and rental assistance;
- 5 (4) Identify government agencies and nonprofit
6 organizations that can fund, provide, or fund and
7 provide supportive housing services once individuals
8 and families are housed;
- 9 (5) Educate housing developers and develop working
10 relationships to incorporate supportive housing,
11 including functional access, counseling rooms, group
12 meeting, and community gathering spaces, into the
13 physical design of future housing developments; and
- 14 (6) Monitor, evaluate, and develop supportive housing best
15 practices.
- 16 (c) The task force shall consist of the following members,
17 who shall serve until the task force is terminated:
- 18 (1) The Governor's coordinator on homelessness;
- 19 (2) The administrator of the benefit, employment, and
20 support services division of the department of human
21 services;



- 1 (3) The administrator of the med-QUEST division of the
2 department of human services;
- 3 (4) The administrator of the adult mental health division
4 of the department of health;
- 5 (5) The administrator of the alcohol and drug abuse
6 division of the department of health;
- 7 (6) The executive director of the Hawaii housing finance
8 and development corporation;
- 9 (7) The executive director of the office of housing of the
10 city and county of Honolulu;
- 11 (8) The housing administrator of the office of housing and
12 community development of the county of Hawaii;
- 13 (9) The director of the department of housing and human
14 concerns of the county of Maui;
- 15 (10) The director of the housing agency of the county of
16 Kauai;
- 17 (11) The following members, to be appointed by the speaker
18 of the house of representatives:
 - 19 (A) A member of the house of representatives;
 - 20 (B) A non-profit housing developer;



- 1 (C) A non-profit supportive housing services
2 provider; and
- 3 (D) A supportive housing services user or advocate;
4 and
- 5 (12) The following members, to be appointed by the
6 president of the senate:
- 7 (A) A member of the senate;
8 (B) A for-profit housing developer;
9 (C) A non-profit supportive housing services
10 provider; and
11 (D) A supportive housing services user or advocate.
- 12 (d) All appointees shall have expertise related to housing
13 or supportive housing services.
- 14 (e) Any vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the
15 manner provided for the original appointment of the position.
- 16 (f) The initial meeting of the task force shall occur no
17 later than thirty days after the effective date of this Act.
18 The members shall elect a chair and committees, if necessary,
19 during the initial meeting of the task force. A majority of the
20 members of the task force shall constitute a quorum to do
21 business.



1 (g) To ensure the task force meetings are efficient and
2 cost-effective, the task force may meet virtually using virtual
3 meeting software.

4 (h) Members of the task force shall receive no
5 compensation for their duties as members of the commission. No
6 member of the task force shall be subject to section 84-17,
7 Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of that member's
8 participation on the task force. The task force shall be exempt
9 from chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

10 (i) The task force shall submit an interim report of its
11 findings and recommendations to the legislature no later than
12 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
13 2023. The task force shall submit a final report of its
14 findings and recommendations to the legislature no later than
15 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
16 2024.

17 (j) The department of human services shall provide
18 administrative support to the task force.

19 (k) The task force shall terminate on June 30, 2024.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



H.B. NO. 1749

1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
2 the supportive housing task force.

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

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

6

INTRODUCED BY: *Nedra K. Palmer*
JAN 21 2022



H.B. NO. 1749

Report Title:

Department of Human Services; Supportive Housing Task Force; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes and appropriates funds for a supportive housing task force to develop a new monitoring and forecasting system, bring stakeholders together to develop a roadmap for implementing supportive housing, address financing opportunities, bridge housing developers with supportive housing service providers, and develop best practices for supportive housing in the State.

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