

JAN 21 2022

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 there is no
2 coordinated, statewide information system that tracks data
3 related to homelessness. The two largest sources of information
4 on homelessness are Partners in Care on Oahu and Bridging the
5 Gap for the islands of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai. These two
6 programs are part of Hawaii's continua of care, which
7 administers federal funding and oversees the coordinated entry
8 system for homeless resources, such as permanent supportive
9 housing, rapid rehousing, and transitional housing, in the
10 State. Various state agencies, including the department of
11 health, department of human services, department of public
12 safety, and the judiciary, as well as county agencies, also
13 maintain data relating to homelessness. Data relating to
14 homelessness that are shared between governmental agencies and
15 other organizations is currently done on a case-by-case basis to
16 accomplish specific tasks.



1 The legislature further finds that the homelessness data
2 collected within the State are siloed and subject to the rules
3 that govern the collecting entity. The legislature believes
4 that a statewide, shared homelessness information system can be
5 used to determine the availability of services at any point-in-
6 time to identify appropriate services, shelter, or housing
7 available to assist persons experiencing homelessness or at-risk
8 individuals; identify and report on gaps where homelessness
9 services, shelter, or housing are required, but not available;
10 and inform policymakers on where funding may be appropriated to
11 address those gaps. The legislature also finds that a
12 coordinated, statewide homelessness data system would provide
13 helpful information to the Hawaii interagency council on
14 homelessness, which was established to advise on homelessness
15 issues within Hawaii.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a
17 statewide homelessness shelter and housing data clearinghouse to
18 be administered by the governor's coordinator on homelessness.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
20 amended by adding a new section to part XVIII to be
21 appropriately designated and to read as follows:



1 "§346- Statewide homelessness shelter and housing data
2 clearinghouse; annual report. (a) There is established, within
3 the department of human services for administrative purposes, a
4 statewide homelessness shelter and housing data clearinghouse.
5 The statewide shelter and housing data clearinghouse shall
6 include but is not limited to information on persons
7 experiencing homelessness, and available services, shelters, and
8 housing within the State.

9 (b) The governor's coordinator on homelessness shall, with
10 assistance from the Hawaii interagency council on homelessness,
11 maintain the statewide homelessness shelter and housing data
12 clearinghouse.

13 (c) The governor's coordinator on homelessness shall
14 submit an annual report to the legislature on the homelessness
15 data collected within the State, including any proposed
16 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
17 each regular session. The report shall also include:

18 (1) Performance metrics relating to reducing the numbers
19 on homelessness;

20 (2) Performance metrics relating to housing and services
21 inventory gaps, including but not limited to the



- 1 number of persons with homelessness served and placed
- 2 into permanent housing and the cost per person served;
- 3 (3) Performance metrics to evaluate the State's
- 4 performance on homeless services, housing, care
- 5 coordination and other needed services to end
- 6 homelessness; and
- 7 (4) A long-term operational plan, including any funding
- 8 requirements necessary for the continued operation of
- 9 the statewide homelessness shelter and housing data
- 10 clearinghouse."


11 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$300,000 or so much
 13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the
 14 establishment of a statewide homelessness shelter and housing
 15 data clearinghouse.

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

18 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

20

INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 2371

Report Title:

Homelessness; Statewide Shelter and Housing Data Clearinghouse;
Department of Human Services; Governor's Coordinator on
Homelessness; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a statewide homelessness shelter and housing data clearinghouse within the Department of Human Services to be administered by the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness. Makes an appropriation.

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

