
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RESOLVING TO END HOMELESSNESS ON MAUI

1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i has one of the most severe
2 homelessness epidemics In the U.S.A.; and

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4 WHEREAS, the 2023 point in time count determined
5 there were 6223 homeless in the state of Hawaii and 704 on Maui
6 before the August 8, 2023 wildfires; and

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8 WHEREAS, per the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
9 Development's 2023 Annual Homeless Assessment Report, Hawai'i
10 had the highest percentage of people experiencing chronic
11 homelessness; and

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13 WHEREAS, Hawai'i also had the third highest rate of
14 homeless youth staying in unsheltered locations; and

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16 WHEREAS, recent Maui Fires have increased homelessness ;
17 and

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19 WHEREAS, homelessness can have many causes including family
20 violence, limited housing opportunities, lack of adequate
21 employment, substance addiction, mental/physical health
22 conditions, trauma, lack of adequate employment and other
23 factors; and

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25 WHEREAS, Hawai'i's housing costs are extremely high and
26 average incomes fails to meet criteria for many rentals; and

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28 WHEREAS, the price of housing in Hawai'i is a large factor
29 in why the homeless population is growing; and

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31 WHEREAS, it is extremely difficult to find affordable
32 housing in Hawai'i; and



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2 WHEREAS, native Hawai'ians are particularly susceptible to
3 homelessness; and

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5 WHEREAS, housing people reduces suffering; and

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7 WHEREAS, housing people reduces medical costs; and

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9 WHEREAS, living on the streets frequently leads to an early
10 death; now, therefore,

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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-
13 second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
14 2024, the Senate concurring, that significantly increased
15 efforts must be made to house people in Hawai'i; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request the Governor and his
18 Coordinator on Homelessness and Housing Solutions to secure a
19 viable location on Maui and build at least 450 homes for the
20 displaced victims of the Lahaina wildfires; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that request the Governor and his
23 Coordinator on Homelessness and Housing Solutions to secure at
24 least two different geographic locations on Maui to build a
25 Kauhale for any displaced Lahaina wildfire victims as well as
26 homeless prior to the August 8, 2023 wildfires and ensure
27 outreach services to provide for mental health, crisis
28 stabilization, along with any wraparound social services for all
29 residents of the new housing units; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Maui needs to house an
32 estimated 800 homeless and the State will move forward with
33 compassion and aloha to help these people by constructing new
34 housing units on Maui; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State and the people of
37 Hawai'i want to house the houseless, shelter those with no
38 shelter, and find homes for all of the housing insecure; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
41 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to The Honorable Governor
42 Joshua Green, the Honorable State Coordinator on Homelessness



H.C.R. NO. 141

1 and Housing Solutions John Mizuno, The Speaker of the House of
2 Representatives Scott Saiki, The President of the Hawai'i Senate
3 Ron Kouchi, Hawai'i Department of Human Services Director Cathy
4 Betts, Hawai'i Department of Health Director Kenneth Fink,
5 County of Maui Mayor Richard Bissen, County of Maui Homelessness
6 coordinator, County of Maui Council Chair Alice Lee, County of
7 Maui Vice Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura, County of Maui Presiding
8 Officer Pro Tempore Tasha Kama, and County of Maui
9 Councilmembers Tom Cook, Gabe Johnson, Tamara Paltin, Keani
10 Rawlins-Fernandez, Shane Sinenci, and Nohelani U'u-Hodgins.

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OFFERED BY:

Jerry Amato

MAR - 8 2024

