Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 , 2024

RE: H.B. No. 2309

H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2024 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Human Services and Health & Homelessness, to which was referred H.B. No. 2309 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Homeless Triage Center Program within the Statewide Office of Homelessness and Housing Solutions in the Department of Human Services that focuses on serving homeless individuals with substance abuse issues or mental illness.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness; Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Partners in Care; and two individuals.

Your Committees find that in 2022, Hawaii was ranked fourth in the nation for highest rates of homelessness. Your Committees further find that triage is recognized as an evidence-based practice to end the cycle of homelessness. However, the State has a serious lack of triage services for homeless persons and others who struggle with mental illness or substance abuse. Your Committees find that this measure helps expand clinical and community-based facilities for behavioral and mental health treatments, which will in turn save on health care costs and allow

law enforcement officers and emergency room departments to focus resources on other priorities in the community.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the management of the Homeless Triage Center Program from the Statewide Office of Homelessness and Housing Solutions within the Department of Human Services to the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division within the Department of Health;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services and Health & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2309, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2309, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Human Services and Health & Homelessness,

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DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair

LISA MARTEN, Chair

State of Hawaii

House of Representatives
The Thirty-second Legislature

HSCR 327-24

Record of Votes of the Committee on Human Services

Bill/Resolution No.: Comm HB2309 HC	ittee Referral: 5/HLT, F	IN C	:: 12.08.H	024			
☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.							
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)							
HUS Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused			
1. MARTEN, Lisa (C)	Y						
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5. KOBAYASHI, Bertrand	·			φ			
6. TAKENOUCHI, Jenna		E. Japan	* 4 [*]				
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7. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.							
8. GARCIA, Diamond							
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TOTAL (8)	4	U	O	2			
The recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)							
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:							
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Upuplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO							

State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-second Legislature

HSCR 327-24

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Bill/Resolution No.: HB2309	Committee Referral: HUS/HLT, FIA						
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The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)							
HLT Members	Ayes	Ayes (WI	R) Nays	Excused			
1. BELATTI, Della Au (C)							
2. TAKENOUCHI, Jenna (VC)							
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