

JAN 23 2026

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 it is the duty of the
2 statewide office on homelessness and housing solutions to
3 "develop and test innovative solutions to prevent and end
4 homelessness in the State". Since its establishment in 2023,
5 \$112,452,080 in general funds and \$24,400,000 in general
6 obligation bond funds have been appropriated for the statewide
7 office on homelessness and housing solutions.

8 Despite the efforts and appropriations made in prior
9 legislative sessions, the 2024 Homeless Point in Time count for
10 Oahu noted a twelve per cent increase in the total number of
11 people who experienced homelessness. Further, according to
12 Honolulu Civil Beat, there were more homeless deaths on Oahu in
13 the first eleven months of 2025 than the annual average for the
14 prior five years. These figures indicate that more oversight is
15 needed on the expenditure of public funds to address
16 homelessness.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to clarify
2 reporting requirements of the statewide office on homelessness
3 and housing solutions.

4 SECTION 2. Section 346-388, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "~~{}~~§346-388~~{}~~ **Duties and responsibilities.** The office
7 shall:

8 (1) Identify and address gaps in the homeless service
9 system by:

10 (A) Developing a standard strategy for coordinated
11 entry, needs assessment, and allocation of
12 services and housing types to create pathways to
13 permanent assisted and independent housing;

14 (B) Working with state departments and agencies to
15 develop and maintain multi-year strategic and
16 tactical plans and road maps as a part of the
17 Hawaii interagency council on homelessness'
18 unified ten-year statewide plan;

19 (C) Coordinating matters relating to homelessness and
20 affordable housing between state and county
21 agencies and private entities; and



- 1 (D) Developing and testing innovative solutions to
2 prevent and end homelessness through
3 collaboration with appropriate agencies;
- 4 (2) Provide administrative support for the Hawaii
5 interagency council on homelessness in developing the
6 council's unified ten-year statewide plan to address
7 homelessness in all counties of the State; ~~and~~
- 8 (3) Establish and maintain a statewide homelessness and
9 housing data clearinghouse, which may include
10 information on persons experiencing homelessness and
11 available services, shelters, and housing~~[-]~~; and
- 12 (4) Report annually on the number of sheltered and
13 unsheltered homeless individuals and the number of
14 individuals who have been placed in permanent housing,
15 supportive housing, and in permanent or independent
16 living arrangements."

17 SECTION 3. Section 346-388.2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

19 "(b) The coordinator shall compile and consolidate
20 information from the office and submit a report to the



1 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
2 each regular session, which shall include:

- 3 (1) Data on the number of beds, occupancy, duration of
4 stay, types of services provided, and next planned
5 destination of participants who left the kauhale;
- 6 (2) An evaluation of the kauhale to determine whether the
7 objectives set have been met or exceeded; ~~and~~
- 8 (3) Any proposed changes that need to be made to the
9 performance measures used to assess the achievement of
10 program goals[-];
- 11 (4) Information on all contracts entered into by the
12 office for the purposes of this part, including
13 contract amounts, contractor names, purpose of the
14 contracts, any terms or conditions of the contracts,
15 and performance outcomes in reducing the number of
16 persons experiencing homelessness; and
- 17 (5) Any plans or proposals made by the office to enhance
18 the kauhale project."

19 SECTION 4. Section 346-389, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
20 amended to read as follows:



1 "[+]§346-389[+] **Annual report.** The coordinator shall
2 submit an annual progress report to the legislature no later
3 than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session.

4 The report shall include:

- 5 (1) Performance metrics relating to reducing the number of
6 persons experiencing homelessness in the State;
- 7 (2) Performance metrics relating to housing and services
8 inventory gaps, including but not limited to the
9 number of persons experiencing homelessness served and
10 placed into permanent housing and the cost per person
11 served; ~~and~~
- 12 (3) Performance metrics to evaluate the State's
13 performance on homeless services, housing, care
14 coordination, and other needed services to end
15 homelessness in the State~~(-)~~;
- 16 (4) Actions and outcomes made by the office to coordinate
17 with other county, state, or federal agencies, or
18 private or nonprofit organizations, to reduce the
19 number of persons experiencing homelessness in the
20 State; and



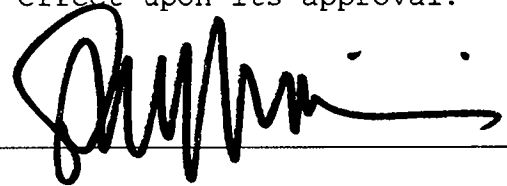
1 (5) Metrics relating to homelessness pursuant to section
2 346-388(4)."

3 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John M. ...", is written over a horizontal line.

S.B. NO. 2557

Report Title:

Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions;
Homelessness; Reporting Requirements

Description:

Requires the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions to make an annual report on the number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and on housing placement. Requires the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions to annually report to the Legislature on contracts and plans or proposals to enhance kauhale projects. Requires the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions to annually report to the Legislature on coordination between the office and any county, state, or federal agencies, or private or nonprofit organizations.

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

