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# 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 families with  
2 children experiencing homelessness often face immediate and  
3 urgent financial needs that threaten housing stability and  
4 school attendance. Students identified as experiencing  
5 homelessness require timely, flexible assistance to address  
6 basic necessities that directly affect their ability to remain  
7 engaged in school.

8 The purpose of this Act is to establish a two-year pilot  
9 program allowing the use of allowable temporary assistance for  
10 needy families funds to provide short-term, flexible assistance  
11 to eligible families of students experiencing homelessness,  
12 while maintaining fiscal accountability and compliance with  
13 federal and state requirements.

14 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a two-year pilot  
15 program within the department of human services to provide  
16 temporary financial stabilization assistance to families with  
17 enrolled students identified as experiencing homelessness.



12 (d) Assistance under the pilot program shall only be  
13 provided to families with one or more enrolled students who are:  
14 (1) Identified as experiencing homelessness under the  
15 department of education's form MV-1; and  
16 (2) Determined to be eligible for temporary assistance for  
17 needy families assistance based on the completed  
18 eligibility screening.

19 (e) Completed eligibility screening documentation shall be  
20 maintained in the student's confidential records held and



1 managed by the appropriate department of education complex area  
2 community homeless concerns liaison.

3 (f) Funds distributed under the pilot program shall be  
4 used in a flexible spending model to address immediate needs  
5 necessary to stabilize the family, including but not limited to:

6 (1) Food;  
7 (2) Clothing;  
8 (3) Transportation support, including gasoline or public  
9 transportation passes; and  
10 (4) Other short-term necessities that directly support  
11 student attendance and stability.

12 (g) All purchases for families and students using pilot  
13 program funds shall be made directly by the appropriate  
14 department of education complex area community homeless concerns  
15 liaison; provided that:

16 (1) Individual purchases shall not exceed \$200 per  
17 transaction;  
18 (2) The total assistance provided shall not exceed \$500  
19 per eligible student per school year; and  
20 (3) Spending limits shall apply regardless of the number  
21 of transactions conducted.



4 (i) If a family has students enrolled in schools located  
5 in different department of education complex areas:

6 (1) Any respective department of education complex area  
7 community homeless concerns liaison may make allowable  
8 purchases on behalf of the family; and  
9 (2) The community homeless concerns liaison making the  
10 purchase shall provide a copy of the purchase receipt  
11 and related documentation to all other involved  
12 liaisons for record-keeping purposes.

16 (k) The department of education shall provide periodic  
17 reports to the department of human services detailing:

18 (1) The number of students and families served;

19 (2) The types of assistance provided;

20 (3) Total expenditures; and



1 (4) Any additional information required to ensure  
2 temporary assistance for needy families compliance.

5 SECTION 2. The department of human services, in  
6 consultation with the department of education, may adopt rules  
7 pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as necessary to  
8 implement this Act.

**9** SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

DHS; DOE; Homelessness; Pilot Program; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Financial Stabilization Assistance

**Description:**

Establishes a two-year-pilot program within the Department of Human Services to provide temporary financial stabilization assistance to families with students identified as experiencing homelessness. Funds the program through the Department of Human Services using allowable Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds. Requires Department of Education Complex Area Community Homeless Concerns Liaison to make approved purchases. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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

