
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.



1 (b) The pilot program shall be funded through the
2 department of human services using allowable temporary
3 assistance for needy families funds, subject to federal and
4 state requirements. Funds shall be allocated by the department
5 of human services for equitable distribution to department of
6 education complex area community homeless concerns liaisons.

7 (c) Prior to the use of funds for any family, the
8 appropriate department of education complex area community
9 homeless concerns liaison shall conduct a department of human
10 services temporary assistance for needy families eligibility
11 screening survey with the family.

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.



1 (h) No direct monetary disbursements, cash assistance, or
2 gift cards shall be provided to families or students under the
3 pilot program.

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.

13 (j) The department of human services shall maintain
14 records of expenditures, eligibility determinations, and
15 assistance provided pursuant to this Act.

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.

3 (1) The pilot program shall cease to exist on June 30,
4 2028, unless extended by the legislature.

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)

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