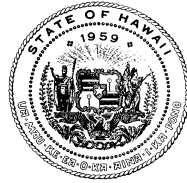


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'AINA O KA MOKU'AINA 'O HAWAII



KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.G.A., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony in SUPPORT of HCR116/HR108
REQUESTING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU AND STATEWIDE OFFICE ON
HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING SOLUTIONS TO DEVELOP A COORDINATED, PLACE-BASED
STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND HOMELESSNESS
RESPONSE NEEDS ON THE WAIANAE COAST.

REPRESENTATIVE GREGGOR ILAGAN, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE IKAIKA HUSSEY, VICE CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Hearing Date and Time: April 8, 2026, Time 9:30 a.m. Location: Room 423 & Video

1 The Department of Health (Department) supports this resolution and appreciates the
2 Legislature's efforts to better address behavioral health needs on the Waianae Coast.

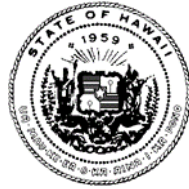
3 The Department believes that treating and assisting people where they are is often the
4 most effective. It allows them to stay in their community, close to their social structure and in
5 an environment where they are comfortable. The Department also recognizes that this
6 approach is not always economically feasible. Therefore, the Department appreciates the
7 approach in this resolution, which seeks to consider data-driven needs, economic feasibility and
8 budgetary constraints.

9 Behavioral health and substance use disorders are unique to the individual and can be
10 responded to in a multitude of ways depending on the individual's need. This resolution
11 addresses that by including different considerations in the feasibility analysis.

12 While the Department is not named in this resolution, it remains committed to working
13 with the City and County of Honolulu and the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing
14 Solutions for the data under the control of the Department needed to complete the required
15 plan.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this resolution.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



RYAN I. YAMANE
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA
Office of the Director
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

TRISTA SPEER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

April 6, 2026

TO: The Honorable Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair
House Committee on Economic Development & Technology

FROM: Jun D. Yang, Coordinator on Homelessness

SUBJECT: **HCR 116/HR 108 – REQUESTING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU AND STATEWIDE OFFICE ON HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING SOLUTIONS TO DEVELOP A COORDINATED, PLACE-BASED STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE NEEDS ON THE WAIANAЕ COAST.**

Hearing: April 8, 2026, Time 09:30 a.m.
Conference Room 423 & Via Videoconference, State Capitol

AGENCY'S POSITION: The Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions (SOHHS) supports this resolution and offers comments. This resolution urges the City and County of Honolulu (City) and SOHHS to develop a coordinated, place-based strategic action plan to address behavioral health and homelessness response needs on the Wai'anae coast. The coordinating agencies are requested to engage with community-based service providers serving the Wai'anae Coast region when developing this strategic action plan, and are requested to submit a report of findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027.

SOHHS welcomes the opportunity to continue to partner with county and community-based organizations to identify resource gaps and opportunities for increased investment in homeless services and housing programs, including resources focused on individuals with

behavioral health needs. SOHHS, the City, and other State and community partners work together to coordinate responses to homelessness on O'ahu, including low-barrier shelter, behavioral health stabilization resources, and long-term housing programs. We welcome the opportunity to continue to collaborate with the City on specialized interventions that will break the cycle of homelessness for people with behavioral health needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA LAWELAWE KAIĀULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

222 NORTH SCHOOL STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817
PHONE: (808) 768-7762 • FAX: (808) 768-7792 • WEBSITE: honolulu.gov/dcs

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA



ANTON C. KRUCKY
DIRECTOR
PO'O

AEDWARD LOS BANOS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O

**TESTIMONY OF ANTON C. KRUCKY
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY
Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 09:30 AM
Conference RM 423 and Via Videoconference**

TO: Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Chair, Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology

RE: SUPPORT OF HCR 116/HR108

The City and County of Honolulu (City) strongly supports HCR 116/HR 108, which requests the development of a coordinated, place-based strategic action plan to address behavioral health and homelessness response needs on the Waianae Coast.

The Waianae Coast continues to experience high rates of unsheltered homelessness, coupled with significant behavioral health challenges, including untreated mental illness and substance use disorders. These complex and overlapping issues require a coordinated, multi-agency response that is tailored to the unique needs, cultural context, and service gaps within the region.

The City has made substantial investments in homelessness outreach, emergency shelter, housing placement, and crisis response services. The scale and complexity of needs on the Waianae Coast underscore the necessity of stronger alignment across state and county systems—particularly in behavioral health services, which are primarily administered at the state level. A unified, place-based strategy will help ensure that resources are deployed effectively, services are not duplicated, and individuals receive timely, appropriate care.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong **support** of this measure.