

A Bill for an Act Relating to Homelessness.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. (a) The Hawaii interagency council on homelessness, in conjunction with and with the advisement of the department of human services and department of land and natural resources, shall establish a working group to examine and develop recommendations related to the establishment of safe zones for persons experiencing homelessness. The members of the working group shall designate a chairperson from among themselves.

(b) The working group shall consider the following:

- (1) The target population to be served by safe zones;
- (2) Recommendations of potential sites to be designated as safe zones; provided that the sites shall be state lands designated within the urban district by the land use commission;
- (3) The type of facilities or dwelling units permitted within a safe zone, including the use of modular structures;
- (4) Strategies to transition inhabitants of a safe zone to permanent housing that utilizes the housing first approach;
- (5) The timeline necessary for planning and implementation of a pilot safe zone for persons experiencing homelessness;
- (6) The estimated costs of planning and implementing a safe zone; and
- (7) The potential scope of liability of the State and its employees and agents with regard to the establishment of safe zones.

(c) The working group shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2018.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$25,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 to support the activities of the working group established pursuant to this Act.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of human services for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

(Became law on July 11, 2017, without the governor's signature, pursuant to Art. III, §16, State Constitution.)