

MAR 14 2012

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING EFFORTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ASSIST
IN FINDING OPPORTUNITIES AND SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS
HOMELESSNESS IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that homelessness is an
2 immediate and pressing problem for many individuals and families
3 in Hawaii; and

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5 WHEREAS, the homeless population is a diverse group that
6 includes individuals who are in need of specialized services to
7 address chronic mental and physical illnesses as well as
8 substance abuse; and

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10 WHEREAS, the homeless population also includes individuals,
11 such as veterans or parents with young children, who are in need
12 of specialized social support resources or innovative services
13 tailored for their individual needs; and

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15 WHEREAS, homelessness is a mutual concern among state and
16 federal agencies, community programs and foundations, and the
17 business community, including many non-governmental
18 organizations that deliver pivotal services to the homeless by
19 providing meals, job training and placement, and early childhood
20 education; and

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22 WHEREAS, the Legislature is striving to address long-term
23 solutions to homelessness, including repairing or building
24 public housing units, providing housing subsidies and services,
25 and creating employment and job training programs; and

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27 WHEREAS, while long-term solutions are vital, the economic
28 downturn facing the State poses challenges to providing adequate
29 funding to government programs addressing homelessness; and



1 WHEREAS, non-governmental organizations are often able to
2 organize quickly to aid the homeless and leverage funding from
3 public and private sources to help those less fortunate; and
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5 WHEREAS, many Hawaii organizations currently assist
6 homeless individuals by providing meals, training, jobs, and
7 other services without seeking special recognition for their
8 efforts; now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the
12 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature
13 supports the efforts by non-governmental organizations that
14 assist in finding opportunities and solutions to address
15 homelessness in Hawaii; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor's
19 Coordinator on Homelessness, Executive Director of the Hawaii
20 Public Housing Authority, Director of Human Services, Chief
21 Executive Officer of the Affordable Housing and Homeless
22 Alliance, President of Hawaii Youth Services Network, and
23 Executive Director of U.S. Vets Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY: *Shianne Chun Cleveland*

