

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3301**

Honolulu, Hawaii  
APR 04 2014

RE: H.B. No. 1934  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 2

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2014  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 1934, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to address homelessness in the State.

Specifically, the measure:

- (1) Appropriates funds to the Department of Health for substance abuse treatment, mental health support services, and clean and sober housing services;
- (2) Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for a rental assistance program, also known as a shallow subsidy program;
- (3) Appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to continue to administer Housing First programs for chronically homeless individuals and for the homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing program;
- (4) Appropriates matching funds to the Department of Human Services for the federal continuum of care permanent supportive housing programs to provide rental assistance in connection with supportive services;



- (5) Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation for innovative housing solutions related to the homeless assistance working group's findings and recommendations; and
- (6) Transfers the homeless assistance working group from the Department of Human Services to the Legislature.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, Catholic Charities Hawaii, United States Veterans Initiative, Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice, Aloha United Way, Partners in Care, Hawaii Primary Care Association, Community Alliance for Mental Health, Catholic Diocese Office for Social Ministry, and two individuals. The Department of Health and the Department of Human Services submitted written comments on the measure.

Your Committee finds that addressing the complex and growing challenge of homelessness in Hawaii requires a multi-faceted approach that recognizes stable housing as a critical component of substance abuse treatment and recovery. Your Committee also finds that providing rent subsidies will help make permanent housing affordable for homeless families and those in transitional housing.

Your Committee further finds that innovative temporary housing solutions have value and that Housing First programs are essential to moving some of the most chronically homeless individuals into permanent housing linked with appropriate services. Your Committee believes that providing matching funds for federally funded continuum of care permanent supportive housing programs would provide housing opportunities for more than six hundred homeless individuals with disabilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the appropriation in section 4 as follows:

- (1) Deleting the appropriation for a rental assistance program, known as a shallow subsidy program, and replacing it with an unspecified appropriation for the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's rent supplement program;



- (2) Establishing a 0.75 full time equivalent (0.75 FTE) position within the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to administer the rent supplement program; and
- (3) Deleting the maximum rent subsidy limit of \$300 per month and the requirement that a household must pay a minimum of forty per cent of its adjusted gross income for rent to qualify for the subsidy.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1934, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1934, H.D. 1, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1934 HD1, SD1	HMS/HTH, WAM	3-28-14		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.				✓
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
KAHELE, Gilbert	✓			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D.				✓
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	✓			
SLOM, Sam		✓		
	10	1	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Michelle N. Kidani</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency        Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes