
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHRONICALLY HOMELESS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. In 2015, the United States Department of
2 Housing and Urban Development issued its definition of
3 "chronically homeless." The purpose of this Act is to amend
4 Hawaii's definition of "chronically homeless" to better align
5 with the federal definition and to reduce confusion amongst
6 providers, communities, and private partners.

7 SECTION 2. Section 346-378, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

9 "(e) As used in this section, "chronically homeless
10 individual" means [~~a homeless individual who has an addiction or
11 a mental illness, or both.~~]:

12 (1) A homeless individual with a mental illness,
13 addiction, or physical disability who:

14 (A) Lives in a place not meant for human habitation,
15 a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and

16 (B) Has been homeless and living as described in
17 subparagraph (A) continuously for at least twelve



1 months or on at least four separate occasions in
2 the last three years, as long as the combined
3 occasions equal at least twelve months and each
4 break in homelessness separating the occasions
5 included at least seven consecutive nights of not
6 living as described in subparagraph (A). Stays
7 in institutional care facilities for fewer than
8 ninety days shall not constitute as a break in
9 homelessness, but rather such stays are included
10 in the twelve-month total, as long as the
11 individual was living or residing in a place not
12 meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an
13 emergency shelter immediately before entering the
14 institutional care facility;

- 15 (2) An individual who has been residing in an
16 institutional care facility, including a jail,
17 substance abuse or mental health treatment facility,
18 hospital, or other similar facility, for fewer than
19 ninety days and met all of the criteria in paragraph
20 (1) before entering that facility; or



1 (3) A family with an adult head of household (or if there
2 is no adult in the family, a minor head of household)
3 who meets all of the criteria in paragraph (1) or (2),
4 including a family whose composition has fluctuated
5 while the head of household has been homeless."

6 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Chronically Homeless; Definition

Description:

Amends the definition of "chronically homeless" to provide clarity and improve the delivery and development of homeless services. (SD1)

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