

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE PARTNERS

Big Island 2017 Legislative Priorities

Aloha Friends,

The 2017 Hawaii Legislature will consider **93** bills, which relate to homelessness and affordable housing. Many of the bills are duplicates or represent House and Senate versions of essentially the same bill.

Below are the **10** “clusters” of bills that the Hawaii Island Community Alliance Partners (CAP) have prioritized. The RSS feeds have been included for each bill. Depending on your browser, you may need to download a free RSS feed reader. An RSS Reader is the simplest way to track the progress of bills so that you can submit testimony.

We suggest that you identify at least one set of bills to follow and support with online testimony. You will want to submit testimony before each committee hearing and votes before full chamber. You can easily submit testimony by following this link, <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/submittestimony.aspx> . You will need to set up an account, which is simple and only requires your name, and email address, and a password. Here is a short PDF with detailed instructions on submitting testimony online, <http://lrbhawaii.org/par/pub/howtotest.pdf> .

When submitting online testimony, brevity is a virtue. You don’t need to write an essay. One or two sentences clearly stating you support for the bill will be effective.

Bills on Homelessness and Affordable Housing:

SB2 and **SCR4**, establishes homelessness as a medical condition to be addressed by providing housing and services.

RSS Feeds:

SB2: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/SB2.xml>

SCR4: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/SCR4.xml>

SB7 requires DHS/DOH to develop a Medicaid supportive housing services benefit plan where Medicaid pays for supportive housing services.

RSS Feeds:

SB7: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/SB7.xml>

SB13 appropriates funds to DOH’s Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division to serve additional mentally ill clients who are also homeless.

RSS Feeds:

SB13: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/SB13.xml>

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SB171, SB1215 and **HB699** appropriate funds to DHS for *Housing First* on Oahu and neighbor islands.

RSS Feeds:

SB171: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/SB171.xml>

SB1215: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/SB1215.xml>

HB699: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB699.xml>

HB2 and **HB359** authorize *tiny homes* or *micro-units*. HB2 allows for less than 500 square feet for farm workers in agricultural districts in a county with a population of between 180,000 - 250,000. HB359 requires HHFDC, and allows the private sector, to establish affordable micro-unit housing.

RSS Feeds:

HB2: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB2.xml>

HB359: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB359.xml>

HB1196 appropriates funds to DHS for *Housing First* and *Rapid Re-housing* as well as HPHA's rent supplement program.

RSS Feeds:

HB1196: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB1196.xml>

HB1575, HB1441, and HB1440 authorize the collection of monies to address homelessness. HB1575 allows counties to enact a 1% income tax surcharge on taxable personal incomes above \$1M and HB1441 and HB1440 establishes the Homelessness Fund by increasing the conveyance tax and directs revenues towards housing projects administered by HFCD, HPHA, and homeless facilities/programs of DHS. HB1440 and HB412 further establishes civil rights boards to address civil rights of homeless. HB1440 and HB413 require a survey of state property for affordable housing, requires DHS to conduct a homeless summit, provides job assistance for homeless individuals, and, along with HB169, establishes a working group in DHS to seek material and services for the Next Step Shelter.

RSS Feeds:

HB1575: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB1575.xml>

HB1441: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB1441.xml>

HB1440: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB1440.xml>

SB588, HB700 and **HB1171** adjusts shelter provisions in Act 234:

1. Amends the definition of an emergency shelter to provide temporary shelter/services for up to six months.
2. Allows shelter stipends to be adjusted annually, based upon performance measures.

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3. Requires shelters to have at least one shower, one sink, and one toilet per 25 residents.
4. Allows partitioned spaces and storage spaces to be predicated by the number of residents/capacity.
5. Removes DHS's authority to require compliance with additional requirements.
6. Establishes two state FTE positions to assist shelters in the implementation of the program.
7. Appropriates additional funds for shelters and other non- recurring costs.

RSS Feeds:

SB588: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/SB588.xml>

HB700: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB700.xml>

HB1171: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB1171.xml>

SB1107 and **HB1240** appropriate funds to continue the *Coordinated Statewide Homeless Initiative*, subject to certain conditions.

RSS Feeds:

SB1107: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/SB1107.xml>

HB1240: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB1240.xml>

FOCUS GROUP – YOUTH

SB1214, **HB1195**, and **HB844** appropriate funds for youth experiencing homelessness and requires DOH and DHS, including the Office of Youth Services, to provide homeless outreach services for youth. HB844 requires the Office of Youth Services to coordinate a two-year Safe Places for Youth Pilot Program in partnership with private organizations to provide advice, guidance, programs, and services. Establishes a Safe Places for Youth Pilot Program Coordinator position.

RSS Feeds:

SB1214: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/SB1214.xml>

HB1195: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB1195.xml>

HB844: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/rss/HB844.xml>