

**Harry Kim**  
*Mayor*



**Wil Okabe**  
*Managing Director*

**Barbara J. Kossow**  
*Deputy Managing Director*

## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 15, 2019

Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Representative Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair  
Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

Representative Tom Brower, Chair  
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair  
Committee on Housing

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Brower, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Matayoshi, and Committee Members:

**RE: SB 471, SD2 Relating to Homelessness**

Hawai'i County participates in Community Alliance Partners (CAP), and heavily relies on that organization to identify pertinent bills related to homelessness that are worthy of support. CAP, understandably, has enthusiastically endorsed the comprehensive approach in SB 471, SD2, and has asked others to join in the effort to win passage.

Homelessness is one of my few priorities for this Session, and I know I would be preaching to the choir if I elaborated on why this issue is so important. Rather than do that, let me simply say that I support SB 471, SD2, and hope you will fund the programs at a level that will make a real difference for our community.

SB 471, SD2 proposes to appropriate funds to the outreach program, rapid re-housing program, housing first program, family assessment centers, law enforcement assisted diversion program, and the coordinated statewide homelessness initiative. It also would establish and appropriate funds for a pilot program to provide long-term rental assistance for individuals over the age of 60 who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

Funding of these essential programs is vital if we are to truly deal with homelessness in our state.

Please act favorably on SB 471, SD2.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim  
MAYOR