

Harry Kim
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March 25, 2019

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members:

RE: SB 471, SD2, HD1 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, HD1 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, HD1 and hope you will fund the programs at a level that will make a real difference for our community.

SB 471, SD2, HD1 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, HD1.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harry Kim". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "H" and "K".

Harry Kim
MAYOR