



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

Testimony to the House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Representative Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:30 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 309

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

by

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First Circuit

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 713, H.D. 1 – Relating to Homelessness, Homeless Employment Grant Program; Appropriation

Purpose: Establishes a 3-year Homeless Employment Grant Program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers. Requires the Department of Human Services to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2020 Regular Session. Appropriates funds. (HB713 HD1)

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary supports the creation of this program to provide homeless individuals with an opportunity to improve their lives through public service and increased access to essential social and quality-of-life services. The proposed Homeless Employment Grant Program would share many goals with the Judiciary’s growing Community Outreach Court program and would seek similar positive outcomes for its participants. This shared mission could provide a great opportunity for increased partnerships between the Judiciary and the Department of Human Services and enhance the ability of both agencies to implement and expand their homeless outreach efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.