## Resolution 22-2 Testimony

P.16a Council



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Ashleigh Loa Executive Director Testimony of Faith Action for Community Equity
City Council
City & County of Honolulu
Resolution 22-2 (2022)
(Relating to the Homeless Action Plan)
Wednesday, January 26, 2022, 10:00 A.M.

Faith Action for Community Equity is a grassroots, interfaith 501c3 nonprofit organization driven by a deep spiritual commitment to improving the quality of life for all who live in Hawaii. Our members work together to address the root causes of systemic justice challenges facing our communities.

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia'āina, and Members of the City Council:

Faith Action for Community Equity writes in **SUPPORT** of Resolution 22-2, which requests the City Administration to provide an update on the City's Homeless Action Plan. An updated plan would reflect on past city efforts, set new goals and actions, and streamline the identification and acquisition of property for temporary housing. It would help these individuals and families get off the street and into homes.

The City and County of Honolulu have long had some of the highest rates of homelessness in the nation, largely due to a lack of affordable housing. In fact – in 2020 – the O'ahu Point in Time Count estimated that there were nearly 4,500 homeless individuals in Honolulu. The COVID-19 pandemic has only made matters worse. We must reverse this trend now.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

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