
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to improve access to
2 the full range of health care services to medicaid and QUEST
3 members accessing services through a mobile medical van, by
4 ensuring that medicaid and QUEST health plans have the
5 flexibility to provide appropriate health services via
6 technological means such as telehealth. This is especially
7 important with a new mobile medical van to begin providing
8 services to the more remote areas on the island of Hawaii.
9 Allowing QUEST and medicaid members to access services through
10 the mobile medical van will assist in improving the health of
11 those with chronic conditions as well as improving the overall
12 health of area residents.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
15 and to read as follows:

16 "§346- Telehealth services; medicaid and QUEST. (a)

17 The department shall allow the use of a mobile health van
18 equipped with telehealth services, including:



- 1 (1) Unrestricted access to an individual's primary care
2 physician;
- 3 (2) Access to specialist care as authorized by an
4 individual's primary care physician; and
- 5 (3) Providing documentation to a primary care physician
6 when documentation is related to visits to another
7 physician;

8 This section does not require the department to cover
9 patient self-referrals to providers or any services not covered
10 by the individual's health plan benefit package. This section
11 shall apply only to a mobile medical van program operating in a
12 county with a population of less than two hundred fifty
13 thousand.

14 (b) The mobile medical van program operating in a county
15 with a population of less than two hundred fifty thousand
16 persons and operated by Kona community hospital shall be funded
17 through a partnership with a non-profit mutual benefit society
18 operating in the State that provides health care coverage to at
19 least six hundred thousand members.

20 (c) For the purposes of this section, "telehealth" means
21 the use of telecommunications services, as defined in section
22 269-1, including real-time video conferencing-based



1 communication, secure interactive and non-interactive web-based
2 communication, and secure asynchronous information exchange, to
3 transmit patient medical information, including diagnostic-
4 quality digital images and laboratory results for medical
5 interpretation and diagnosis, for the purpose of delivering
6 enhanced health care services and information to parties
7 separated by distance. A standard telephone contact, facsimile
8 transmission, or an email text, in combination or by itself,
9 does not constitute a telehealth service for the purposes of
10 this section."

11 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
12 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
13 begun before its effective date.

14 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
16 provided that this Act shall be repealed on June 30, 2013.

17



Report Title:

QUEST Telehealth Services

Description:

Provides for telehealth services coverage for medicaid and QUEST patients using Kona hospital's medical van program. Repeals 6/30/2013. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

