
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that organ
2 transplantation is a life saving therapy for many critically ill
3 patients with end-stage diseases. More than one hundred ten
4 thousand patients are on the national organ transplant waiting
5 list; four hundred seven of those patients are Hawaii residents.
6 The legislature further finds that, statewide, there is only one
7 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certified organ
8 transplant facility for liver and kidney transplants, where
9 dozens of transplantations are performed each year. In
10 addition, patients who have received an organ transplant
11 continue to receive monitoring and follow-up care from medical
12 staff, physicians, and surgeons after the patient's operation.
13 Individuals diagnosed with a potentially preventable chronic
14 disease represent a sizable percentage of those waiting for an
15 organ. Unhealthy lifestyle behaviors such as tobacco use, poor
16 diet, and lack of physical activity may lead to chronic illness
17 of the kidney and liver which, if left unmanaged, could
18 ultimately impair organ function and lead to organ failure and



1 the need for transplantation. Furthermore, genetic
2 predisposition and environmental influences leading to unhealthy
3 behaviors can interact to accelerate and exacerbate the process.
4 Since approximately ninety per cent of the people on the waiting
5 list for an organ transplant in Hawaii have kidney failure, and
6 since it is clear that it is possible to slow or even reverse
7 the progression of chronic kidney disease, the focus on
8 prevention as part of the solution must be included.

9 The legislature finds that funding is crucial to maintain a
10 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certified kidney and
11 liver transplant facility in Hawaii, as well as to maintain a
12 federally-recognized stage 3 chronic kidney disease program
13 focused on prevention for disparate populations in Hawaii. The
14 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certified organ
15 transplant program provides an important public resource to the
16 State and to many organ transplant patients and recipients in
17 Hawaii. Without an operational organ transplant center,
18 patients with end-stage diseases would be forced to register on
19 transplant waiting lists for mainland transplant centers, many
20 of which have a longer waiting time to receive a donor organ
21 than in Hawaii. The increased waiting time for an organ may
22 mean that the sickest of those patients may not survive long



1 enough for a donor organ to become available. In addition to
2 increased waiting time, many waitlisted patients in Hawaii would
3 have the additional burden of relocating to other areas of the
4 country, away from friends and family, while awaiting a donor
5 organ as well as during their recovery.

6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys as a grant
7 to sustain Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certified
8 organ transplant operations in Hawaii and maintain a federally-
9 recognized chronic kidney disease management program.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,000,000 or so much
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 as a grant
13 pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to support
14 ongoing services provided by a qualified provider with Centers
15 for Medicare and Medicaid Services certification to perform
16 kidney and liver transplants in Hawaii as well as to support a
17 federally-recognized chronic kidney disease management program.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
19 health for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.



Report Title:

Kidney; Liver; Transplants; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to be expended by the Department of Health to support ongoing services provided by a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certified kidney and liver transplant provider in Hawaii, and to support a federally-recognized chronic kidney disease management program. Effective July 1, 2011. (HB608 HD1)

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

