
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII PREPAID HEALTH CARE ACT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that for over thirty
2 years, Hawaii's prepaid health care act has made the State a
3 national leader in providing health care to all of its
4 residents. Due in large part to the prepaid health care act,
5 Hawaii has one of the healthiest populations, the highest rates
6 of insured individuals, and the lowest health insurance costs in
7 the country. While Hawaii is not immune to many of the
8 challenges regarding accessibility, quality, and cost of health
9 care that face the nation as a whole, the prepaid health care
10 act has assured stability in the health insurance market and has
11 made Hawaii a national leader in health care policy.

12 The legislature notes that at the time of the initial
13 passage of the prepaid health care act and at certain other
14 times, such as the federal attempt to enact health care reform
15 in 1993, federal legislation to reform the health care system on
16 a national level has been projected to impact Hawaii's prepaid
17 health care act. At the time of the prepaid health care act's
18 original passage in 1974, the legislature included a section



1 that triggered the termination of the state law upon passage of
2 greater federal protections. In anticipation of the health care
3 reforms in 1993 that never actually materialized, the
4 legislature in 1994 passed Act 99, which repeals the termination
5 provision of the prepaid health care act in order to preserve a
6 higher benefit level for the people of Hawaii than that which
7 was predicted to be included in the potential federal law.

8 Current federal health care reform efforts have continued
9 to recognize the special situation created by Hawaii's prepaid
10 health care act and have preserved Hawaii's higher level of
11 consumer protections by continuing Hawaii's exemption from
12 certain federal laws. Nevertheless, while the legislature
13 wholeheartedly supports the efforts of President Obama and the
14 One Hundred Eleventh Congress to bring the nation closer to
15 universal health coverage, the legislature continues to believe
16 that the prepaid health care act provides superior benefits to
17 the people of Hawaii than does federal legislation on its own.
18 Further, the legislature finds that the reported agenda of the
19 One Hundred Twelfth Congress to dismantle federal health care
20 reforms may jeopardize the prepaid health care act. Therefore,
21 in order to safeguard the prepaid health care act more
22 completely, the legislature finds it necessary to immediately



1 eliminate language allowing for the automatic repeal of Hawaii's
2 prepaid health care act from the text of that act and to
3 eliminate potentially conflicting language regarding the
4 effective date of the prepaid health care act's automatic
5 repeal.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 393, part V, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
7 is repealed.

8 SECTION 3. Act 99, Session Laws of Hawaii 1994, is
9 repealed.

10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

11



Report Title:

Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act

Description:

Repeals the sunset provision of the Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act. Repeals Act 99, Session Laws of Hawaii 1994, which repealed the sunset provision of the Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act effective upon the enactment of certain federal law. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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

