

JAN 23 2015

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DENTAL HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is in a
2 position to develop a groundbreaking process to address the
3 unmet dental health care needs of its most vulnerable citizens.
4 Significant adverse health and socio-economic conditions exist
5 as a result of untreated oral diseases among the State's most
6 vulnerable populations, especially underserved children,
7 pregnant women, seniors, adults with chronic conditions, people
8 with special care needs, and ethnic minorities, including native
9 Hawaiians, Pacific islanders, and Filipinos.

10 Inadequate dental health has a negative impact on the
11 overall health of the population that can result in increased
12 health costs for the State.

13 There is insufficient measurement of dental health
14 indicators among vulnerable residents of the State, including
15 incidence and prevalence of dental disease, and insufficient
16 understanding of existing resources, including availability,



1 accessibility, affordability, and acceptability of dental health
2 care.

3 Poor understanding of the dental health status prevents the
4 development of effective and cost-efficient strategies and
5 public policies to address the dental health care needs of the
6 most vulnerable residents of the State.

7 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
8 department of health to support the State's dental health care
9 initiative.

10 SECTION 2. Section 321-62, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 "§321-62 General duties of department. The department of
13 health shall study and appraise the State's dental health needs
14 and resources, and shall foster the development and expansion of
15 dental health services to the people of the State. The
16 department may:

- 17 (1) Conduct research, investigations, experiments,
18 demonstrations, and studies relating to the incidence,
19 causes, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of dental
20 diseases;



- 1 (2) Supervise, provide, and direct clinical dental health
- 2 services for adults and children in the State;
- 3 (3) Develop and conduct a program of dental health
- 4 education of the public;
- 5 (4) Provide information and education relating to dental
- 6 health to public health nurses, teachers, social
- 7 workers, and others who deal in a professional
- 8 capacity with the public, through publications,
- 9 seminars, institutes, and other appropriate means;
- 10 [and]
- 11 (5) Provide training for professional personnel to staff
- 12 state and local dental health programs[-];
- 13 (6) Develop a comprehensive assessment of the State's
- 14 dental health status, including the capacity of
- 15 existing public and private infrastructure and health
- 16 care workforce, including:
- 17 (A) High performance computing and statistical and
- 18 geospatial analysis in order to assess gaps
- 19 between access to dental health care needs and
- 20 existing resources;



- 1 (B) Identification and analysis of social
- 2 determinants of dental health status of
- 3 vulnerable populations;
- 4 (C) Assurance that the community representative
- 5 sample will accurately determine dental health
- 6 status of vulnerable populations;
- 7 (D) Access to health care data, including dental care
- 8 workforce type, language, ethnicity, geographical
- 9 distribution, and participation in public
- 10 programs; and
- 11 (E) Assessment of potential economic impact;
- 12 (7) Develop and disseminate an assessment of its findings
- 13 at a large public convening with participation of
- 14 national experts to showcase existing innovative cost-
- 15 saving models being adopted in other parts of the
- 16 country; and
- 17 (8) Develop a comprehensive, consensus building process
- 18 with diverse stakeholders to formulate public policy
- 19 recommendations that ensures an inter-professional
- 20 approach and a broad representation and participation



1 of consumers, health care professionals, and the
2 dental health community."

3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2016-2017 for the implementation of section 321-62(6) to (8),
8 Hawaii Revised Statutes, as established by this Act.

9 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
10 of health for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

14

INTRODUCED BY: Josh Green

SP Hines
Paul E. Pule

W. J. J. J.
Randy de Bob



S.B. NO. 792

Report Title:

Dental Health Initiative; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of health in support of the state dental health initiative.

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

