

JAN 25 2017

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

**PART I**

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2           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hāna, Maui, is one  
3 of the most isolated areas in the State. Hāna town is fifty-  
4 seven miles from Wailuku, a trip that takes approximately two  
5 hours along a single lane road with six hundred seventeen turns  
6 and fifty-six one-lane bridges. The district is made up of  
7 small, isolated settlements scattered over two hundred thirty-  
8 three square miles. Many of the villages are located a minimum  
9 of forty-five minutes from the main town of Hāna. Many homes do  
10 not have basic utilities, such as electricity, telephones, and  
11 running water.

12           The legislature further finds that Hāna Health was  
13 established pursuant to Act 263, Session Laws of Hawaii 1996, to  
14 transition the Hāna Medical Center from a state-operated  
15 facility to a nonprofit community health center designed to meet  
16 the specific needs of the area. In the twenty years since, Hāna



1 Health has operated effectively and worked closely with the  
2 department of health's family health services.

3 Operating since 1997, the purpose of Hāna Health is to  
4 improve the general health and well-being of the Hāna community  
5 through the provision of medical care and other social,  
6 economic, and health-related programs. Hāna Health is the only  
7 health care provider in the Hāna district, serving the primary  
8 health care and emergent medical needs of residents and visitors  
9 alike. Hāna has been designated by the federal government as a  
10 medically underserved population, a primary care health  
11 professional shortage area, a dental health professional  
12 shortage area, and a mental health professional shortage area.  
13 In September 2002, Hāna Health was designated as a Federally  
14 Qualified Health Center (FQHC).

15 The legislature additionally finds that because of Hāna's  
16 relative isolation, Hāna Health provides a hybrid of services.  
17 Unlike most primary care clinics, Hāna Health must also  
18 coordinate activities with the ambulance service and provide  
19 assistance in stabilizing patients with life-threatening  
20 illnesses or traumatic injuries. These services are required  
21 twenty-four hours a day because the center is the only full



1 service health care provider in the district. The coordination  
2 of emergency services and provision of life support care is  
3 absolutely essential to the 2,500 residents of Hāna and the six  
4 hundred thousand tourists who visit annually.

5 Hāna Health has been providing primary and urgent medical  
6 care, oral health care, mental and behavioral health care, pre-  
7 packaged medications in lieu of a full pharmacy, laboratory  
8 testing, and limited transportation and home health services for  
9 those with mobility problems in this rural community since its  
10 inception. Additional Hāna Health programs include:

- 11 (1) The Hāna Fresh Farm, which provides food for Hāna  
12 Health's nutrition programs and includes a Hawaiian  
13 medicinal garden;
- 14 (2) The Healthy Lifestyles Program, designed to support  
15 patients managing a chronic health condition, which  
16 includes Hāna Fresh meals and personalized fitness  
17 plans;
- 18 (3) Rx for Good Health, which supports Hāna Health  
19 patients to adopt a diet rich in farm fresh produce  
20 through "prescriptions" for organic fruits and  
21 vegetables at the Hāna Fresh Farm stand; and



1 (4) The Walk It to Win It Challenge, a walking program  
2 aimed at helping student in grades 3 through 8 learn  
3 about and adopt healthy lifestyles, including proper  
4 nutrition and regular exercise.

5 **PART II**

6 SECTION 2. The legislature finds that the Waianae Coast  
7 Comprehensive Health Center was established in 1972 to provide  
8 health services for the federally designated medically  
9 underserved Waianae coast with operational funds granted through  
10 the Department of Health and Human Services. The legislature  
11 further finds that consistent with the Waianae Coast  
12 Comprehensive Health Center's mission, the center currently  
13 serves 35,000 patients annually; of the patients served, forty-  
14 five per cent are Native Hawaiian, followed by Asian and other  
15 Pacific Islanders, at twenty-four per cent. Seventy per cent of  
16 patients are at one hundred per cent of the federal poverty  
17 level or below, nine per cent are uninsured, and fifty-nine per  
18 cent are participants of the State's medicaid program.

19 The legislature further finds that the Waianae Coast  
20 Comprehensive Health Center's emergency room is one of the most  
21 heavily utilized on Oahu, serving 13,500 patients through a



1 total of 24,000 visits in 2015 to 2016. The Waianae Coast  
2 Comprehensive Health Center emergency medical services provide a  
3 safety net for the residents of the Waianae coast. Increased  
4 homelessness, changing economic conditions, and growing  
5 behavioral health issues continue to increase the demand for  
6 emergency medical services in the region. The twenty-four-hour  
7 emergency services provided by the Waianae Coast Comprehensive  
8 Health Center help address the issue of geographic isolation  
9 faced by the communities located on the most western point of  
10 Oahu.

11 **PART III**

12 SECTION 3. The legislature finds that Hāna Health's  
13 twenty-four-hour emergency medical services programs and the  
14 Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center are linked to both the  
15 state emergency medical service system and the state plan for  
16 disaster response. These facilities are the remaining two  
17 freestanding, non-hospital based, emergency medical facilities  
18 that are part of this essential system of emergency response in  
19 the State. Based on the history and investment of the State in  
20 Hāna Health and the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center  
21 over the years, the legislature finds that a long term funding



1 option is necessary to ensure the stability of the provision of  
2 emergency services by those providers. Therefore, the purpose  
3 of this Act is to:

- 4 (1) Appropriate funds to Hāna Health to continue Hāna  
5 Health's ability to meet the ongoing needs of the  
6 isolated Hāna community;
- 7 (2) Appropriate funds to the Waianae Coast Comprehensive  
8 Health Center to assist with the operation of its  
9 twenty-four-hour emergency medical room to continue to  
10 serve the residents of the Waianae coast; and
- 11 (3) Require funding for Hāna Health and the Waianae Coast  
12 Comprehensive Health Center's emergency services to be  
13 included in the department of health's base budget  
14 beginning with the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

15 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much  
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 as a grant  
18 pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to support  
19 Hāna Health.

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



# S.B. NO. 1235

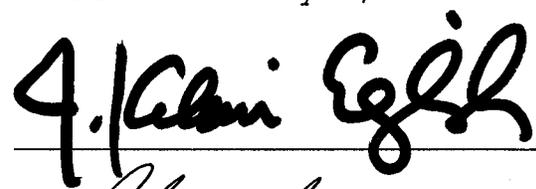
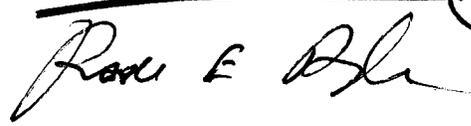
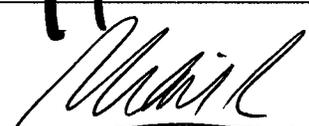
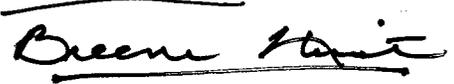
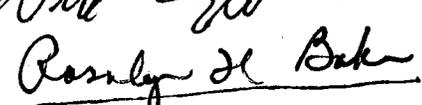
1 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,925,000 or so much  
 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 as a grant  
 4 pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to the Waianae  
 5 Coast Comprehensive Health Center for operation of its twenty-  
 6 four-hour emergency room.

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

9 SECTION 6. Funds necessary for the operation of Hāna  
 10 Health and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center's emergency  
 11 services shall be included in the department of health's base  
 12 budget beginning with the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

13 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.  
 14

INTRODUCED BY:



# S.B. NO. 1235

**Report Title:**

Hana Health; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds as a grant for the continued support of Hāna Health in Hāna, Maui. Appropriates funds as a grant to the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center for operation of its twenty-four-hour emergency room. Requires funds necessary for the operation of Hāna Health and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center's emergency services to be included in the department of health's base budget beginning with the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

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

