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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 432E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4           "§432E-       Effective communication; penalty. Any health  
5 care provider who fails to provide auxiliary aids and services,  
6 including qualified sign language interpreters, in order to  
7 achieve effective communication with an enrollee who has a  
8 communication disability, such as a vision, speech, or hearing  
9 disability, shall be assessed a fine by the commissioner equal  
10 to three times the cost of providing a qualified auxiliary aid  
11 or service for the length of the enrollee's interaction with the  
12 provider."

13           SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
14 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
15 begun before its effective date.

16           SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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# H.B. NO. 955

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 23 2017



**Report Title:**

Health Care Providers; Auxiliary Aids and Services;  
Communication Disability

**Description:**

Creates penalty for health care providers who fail to provide auxiliary aids or services to patients with a communication disability.

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