
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT.

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

PART I

1
2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that high end users of
3 emergency care and hospital beds tend to be people with multiple
4 chronic conditions, of which substance abuse, mental illness,
5 and homelessness are the predominant chronic conditions.
6 Untreated multiple chronic conditions, including addiction
7 disorders and mental illnesses, increase with age, and as the
8 number of a person's chronic conditions increases, the risks of
9 certain undesirable outcomes also increase, such as mortality,
10 poor functional status, unnecessary hospitalizations, adverse
11 drug events, duplicative tests, and conflicting medical advice.

12 Because people with multiple chronic conditions suffer
13 suboptimal health outcomes and incur rising health care
14 expenses, enhanced attention on this population is critical to
15 improving health care quality and costs.

16 Improved health care outcomes for individuals with multiple
17 chronic conditions comprise a broad spectrum, such as



1 maintaining function, palliating symptoms, preventing adverse
2 drug events, avoiding unnecessary emergency department visits,
3 and reducing hospitalizations and rehospitalizations.

4 The purpose of this part is to appropriate moneys to
5 establish a comprehensive and coordinated continuum of treatment
6 services.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
10 department of health to establish a comprehensive and
11 coordinated continuum of treatment services, including goals and
12 benefits, for persons with multiple chronic conditions,
13 including substance abuse disorders.

14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
15 health for the purposes of this part.

16 PART II

17 SECTION 3. The legislature finds that screening, brief
18 intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) is a
19 comprehensive, integrated, public health approach to the
20 delivery of early intervention and treatment services for
21 persons with substance use disorders and persons who are at risk



1 of developing substance abuse disorders. SBIRT represents an
2 early intervention approach for individuals with nondependent
3 substance use, effectively helping them before they need more
4 extensive or specialized treatment.

5 Research has demonstrated that SBIRT successfully reduces
6 health care costs, the severity of drug and alcohol use, the
7 risk of trauma (distressing events that may have long lasting,
8 harmful effects on a person's physical and emotional health and
9 wellbeing), and the percentage of at-risk patients who go
10 without specialized substance use treatment.

11 The referral and treatment process, which is a critical yet
12 often overlooked component of the overall SBIRT process,
13 consists of assisting a patient with accessing specialized
14 treatment, selecting a treatment facility, and helping navigate
15 any barriers, such as cost or transportation, that could hinder
16 treatment in a specialty setting.

17 The purpose of this part is to appropriate moneys to
18 establish a comprehensive and coordinated centralized referral
19 system in each county.

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
2 department of health to establish a comprehensive and
3 coordinated centralized referral system in each county; provided
4 that a permanent centralized referral center shall be
5 established first in the city and county of Honolulu and then
6 expanded to include a referral service to assist each of the
7 other counties; provided further that of the sum appropriated,
8 \$1,500,000 shall be allocated to establish each referral system
9 in each county.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
11 health for the purposes of this part.

12 PART III

13 SECTION 5. The legislature finds that effective substance
14 abuse case management requires a qualified professional to help
15 substance abusers recognize their problems and acquire the
16 motivation and tools to access treatment. Case management
17 professionals support substance abusers as they move through the
18 recovery continuum and reinforce treatment goals. Case
19 management is especially appropriate for substance abusers with
20 special treatment needs, related to issues such as HIV infection
21 or AIDS, mental illness, chronic and acute health problems,



1 poverty, homelessness, responsibility for parenting young
2 children, social and developmental problems associated with
3 adolescence and advanced age, involvement with illegal
4 activities, physical disabilities, and sexual orientation.

5 Case management, even if provided temporarily or in concert
6 with other case managers, can help address inadequate funding
7 gaps, extensive waitlists for residential services, barriers
8 between systems, and eligibility differences between various
9 treatment providers.

10 The purpose of this part is to appropriate moneys to
11 establish a comprehensive and coordinated substance use disorder
12 case management program.

13 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
16 department of health to establish a comprehensive and
17 coordinated substance use disorder case management program,
18 including the recently created case management programs that
19 help those with substance use disorders; provided that of the
20 sum appropriated, \$1,000,000 shall be allocated to establish
21 each professional case management program for substance use



1 disorders on each of the islands of Hawaii, Kauai, Lanai, Maui,
2 Molokai, and Oahu.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 health for the purposes of this part.

5 PART IV

6 SECTION 7. The legislature finds that peer mentoring or
7 coaching refers to a one-on-one relationship in which a peer
8 leader with more recovery experience than the person served
9 encourages, motivates, and supports a peer who is seeking to
10 establish or strengthen the peer's recovery. Generally, mentors
11 or coaches assist peers with tasks such as setting recovery
12 goals, developing recovery action plans, and solving problems
13 directly related to recovery, including finding sober housing,
14 making new friends, finding new uses of spare time, and
15 improving job skills. Mentors or coaches may also provide
16 assistance with issues that arise in connection with collateral
17 problems, such as having a criminal record or physical or mental
18 challenges.

19 The purpose of this part is to appropriate moneys for a
20 peer mentoring and coaching program.



1 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for a peer
4 mentoring and coaching program, which shall include:

- 5 (1) Hiring supervisors to supervise and train volunteer
6 peer mentors and coaches to help those with substance
7 use disorders; and
- 8 (2) Developing incentive programs and stipends for
9 volunteers.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
11 health for the purposes of this part.

12 PART V

13 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

DOH; Substance Abuse Treatment; Appropriations

Description:

Appropriates moneys for Department of Health to fund substance abuse treatment programs relating to persons with multiple chronic conditions, a centralized referral system, case management programs, and a peer mentoring or coaching program.
(HB2611 HD1)

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