
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there has been a
2 downward trend in the number of doctors seeking to practice in
3 the primary care field, with most new medical graduates looking
4 instead to pursue non-primary care specialties. Research shows
5 that one driving factor in the decrease in primary care
6 practitioners is that primary care physicians are compensated
7 significantly less than physicians in other medical specialties.
8 Research has also shown a correlation between enhanced spending
9 on primary care with improved health outcomes for populations.
10 It is therefore in the public's interest to establish a
11 collaborative group within the department of health to study the
12 State's current spending on primary care and develop
13 recommendations on ways to optimize spending in primary care.

14 The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force known
15 as the primary care payment reform collaborative to:

16 (1) Examine current levels of primary care spending in the
17 State;



- 1 (2) Explore primary care spending mandates in other
- 2 states;
- 3 (3) Examine alternative methods and models of enhancing
- 4 primary care spending;
- 5 (4) Explore data collection issues related to
- 6 understanding the State's primary care spending,
- 7 including the capture of non-claims based primary care
- 8 spending; and
- 9 (5) Generate recommendations to the legislature.

10 SECTION 2. (a) There is established in the department of
11 health a task force known as the primary care payment reform
12 collaborative (collaborative).

13 (b) The director of health, who shall serve as the lead
14 chairperson of the collaborative, shall appoint representatives
15 from the following groups to participate in the collaborative:

- 16 (1) Primary care clinicians;
- 17 (2) Health care consumers;
- 18 (3) Experts in primary care contracting and payment;
- 19 (4) Independent practice associations;
- 20 (5) Third-party administrators;



- 1 (6) Employers that offer self-insured health benefit
- 2 plans;
- 3 (7) The MedQuest division of the department of human
- 4 services;
- 5 (8) The insurance division of the department of commerce
- 6 and consumer affairs;
- 7 (9) Health care service plans and health insurers;
- 8 (10) Mental and behavioral health professionals;
- 9 (11) A statewide organization representing community
- 10 clinics;
- 11 (12) A statewide organization representing hospitals and
- 12 health systems;
- 13 (13) A statewide professional association for family
- 14 physicians;
- 15 (14) A statewide professional association for physicians;
- 16 (15) A statewide professional association for primary care
- 17 clinicians;
- 18 (16) The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
- 19 Services;
- 20 (17) The chair of the house committee on health, or a
- 21 designee appointed by the speaker of the house;



1 (18) The chair of the senate committee on commerce,
2 consumer protection, and health, or a designee
3 appointed by the senate president; and

4 (19) Any person or entity whose participation the director
5 of health determines would be helpful.

6 (c) The collaborative shall develop annual recommendations
7 to the legislature to strengthen the primary care system in the
8 State. The collaborative shall examine and report on the
9 following:

10 (1) Payment reform;

11 (2) Value-based care;

12 (3) Workforce and recruitment;

13 (4) Directing resources to support and expand primary care
14 access;

15 (5) Increasing integrated care, including for women's and
16 behavioral health;

17 (6) The current percentage of medical expenses in the
18 State allocated to primary care;

19 (7) Primary care spending mandates in other states,
20 including an assessment of methods for establishing a



1 minimum primary care spending percentage or dollar
2 amount;

3 (8) Data collection issues regarding primary spending in
4 the State and its potential impact on data submitted
5 to Hawaii's All Payer Claims Database; and

6 (9) Potential standard definitions of "primary care" that
7 may be used in future related legislation.

8 The collaborative may use data submitted to Hawaii's All
9 Payer Claims Database to assist in the above examination. The
10 collaborative may request similar data from health insurers who
11 are not required to submit claims data to Hawaii's All Payer
12 Claims Database. All data received by the collaborative shall
13 be kept and maintained in the same confidential manner
14 established by section 323D-18.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
15 except as necessary to make recommendations and reports to the
16 legislature.

17 (d) It is not the intent of the legislature to authorize a
18 person or entity to engage in or conspire to engage in an
19 activity that constitutes a per se violation of state or federal
20 antitrust laws, including, but not limited to, an agreement
21 among competing health care service plans or health insurance



1 companies as to the price or specific level of payment for a
2 health care service.

3 (e) For the purposes of this Act:

4 "Primary care" means health care services delivered by
5 clinicians specializing in family medicine, general internal
6 medicine, or general pediatrics; or any other clinician whose
7 practice primarily focuses on prevention, wellness, and
8 treatment for common illnesses.

9 "Primary care clinician" means a physician or other health
10 professional licensed or certified in Hawaii whose clinical
11 practice is in the area of primary care.

12 (f) The collaborative shall convene no later than
13 September 16, 2019.

14 (g) The collaborative shall serve until it has
15 accomplished the objectives of this Act or twenty days prior to
16 the convening of the regular session of 2024, whichever occurs
17 first.

18 SECTION 3. The collaborative shall submit a report of its
19 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
20 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
21 to the convening of the regular session of 2020, and then



1 successively no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
2 the regular sessions of 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

4 INTRODUCED BY: Della A. Blatti

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John M. [unclear]
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Bill Kobayashi

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H.B. NO. 1444

Report Title:

Primary Care Spending; Payment Reform; Primary Care Payment Reform Collaborative

Description:

Establishes the Primary Care Payment Reform Collaborative task force in the Department of Health to examine issues related to primary care spending and data collection and to develop recommendations to the legislature.

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

