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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

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

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding two new sections to part XVIII to be  
3 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

4           "§321-A Enhanced and expanded emergency medical services;  
5 fees. (a) The department shall establish reasonable fees to be  
6 collected from individuals who are:

7           (1) Transported by emergency ground ambulance services to  
8 a health care facility designated by the department  
9 for the care of the individual; or

10           (2) Provided health care by emergency medical services  
11 personnel but not transported by ground ambulance to a  
12 health care facility.

13           (b) The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91  
14 necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section.

15           (c) No later than July 1, 2020, the department shall adopt  
16 interim rules, which shall be exempt from chapter 91 and chapter  
17 201M, to effectuate the purposes of this section; provided that  
18 the interim rules shall remain in effect until July 1, 2023, or



1 until rules are adopted pursuant to subsection (b), whichever  
2 occurs sooner.

3 §321-B Community paramedicine program; established. (a)

4 The department of health shall establish and administer the  
5 community paramedicine program.

6 (b) The department shall:

7 (1) Develop guidelines for community paramedicine;

8 (2) Explore and develop partnerships with public and  
9 private health care entities, insurers, and community  
10 organizations; and

11 (3) Employ telehealth to enhance access and improve the  
12 patient experience.

13 (c) For purposes of this part, "community paramedicine  
14 program" means an enhanced and expanded service in the state  
15 comprehensive emergency medical services system that allows  
16 state-licensed health care professionals, and community health  
17 workers, to assist with public health, primary care, and  
18 prevention services, including services through telehealth.

19 (d) The department of health shall submit a report on the  
20 status of the community paramedicine program, including an  
21 accounting of expenses and source of funds, to the legislature



1 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular  
2 session of the legislature.

3 (e) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
4 91 to effectuate the purposes of this section.

5 (f) The department may adopt interim rules, which shall be  
6 exempt from chapter 91 and chapter 201M, to effectuate the  
7 purposes of this section; provided that the interim rules shall  
8 remain in effect until July 1, 2023, or until rules are adopted  
9 pursuant to subsection (e), whichever occurs sooner."

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately  
12 designated and to read as follows:

13 "§346- Coverage of ground ambulance services. Beginning  
14 on January 1, 2020, the State's medicaid programs:

15 (1) May provide coverage for ground ambulance services  
16 pursuant to part XVIII of chapter 321; and

17 (2) May provide coverage for health care provided by  
18 emergency medical services personnel, pursuant to part  
19 XVIII of chapter 321;



1 provided that implementation of this section is dependent on  
2 approval by the United States Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
3 Services."

4 SECTION 3. The department of health shall submit a report  
5 of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
6 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
7 to the convening of the regular session of 2020, 2021, 2022, and  
8 2023. The report shall include:

- 9 (1) The status of any rules adopted pursuant to this Act;  
10 (2) A report on community stakeholders engaged in  
11 developing the community paramedicine program;  
12 (3) The progress of the establishment of reasonable fees  
13 for individuals who are transported to health care  
14 facilities via ground ambulance or provided with  
15 health care by emergency services personnel but are  
16 not transported; and  
17 (4) Recommendations as to a private insurance mandate for  
18 coverage of ground ambulance services.

19 SECTION 4. In codifying the new sections added by  
20 section 1 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute



1 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating  
2 the new sections in this Act.

3 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.



**Report Title:**

Emergency Ambulance Services; Emergency Medical Services; Fees;  
Insurance Coverage

**Description:**

Authorizes the DOH to establish fees for ground transportation to medical facilities and for provision of emergency medical services that do not include transport. Authorizes transportation by ambulance to medical facilities other than hospital emergency departments. Authorizes Medicaid programs to provide coverage for health care provided by emergency medical services personnel. (HB1453 CD2)

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

