
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to address an unmet
2 need in the State for high acuity and high cost patients with
3 chronic substance abuse and mental health disorders. Subacute
4 residential stabilization services, otherwise known as crisis
5 stabilization beds, will bridge the gap for individuals in
6 crisis for whom acute inpatient hospitalization is unnecessary
7 and lower level residential and community treatment modalities
8 are insufficient.

9 Individuals who will benefit from crisis stabilization beds
10 enter and re-enter the health care system through emergency
11 departments, often under a designation for emergency examination
12 pursuant to section 334-59, Hawaii Revised Statutes, more
13 commonly known as "MH-1." Upon discharge, but before long-term
14 rehabilitation and treatment may continue, some patients will
15 require several days or weeks to de-escalate from their crisis
16 in a controlled environment. However, Hawaii's treatment
17 resources do not currently include crisis stabilization beds.



1 The department of health proposes to invest in existing state
2 facilities that have underutilized bed space to create an
3 inventory of crisis stabilization beds. This Act authorizes the
4 mental health and substance abuse special fund to be used for
5 capital improvements. Due to focused efforts over the last
6 several years to maximize billing and reimbursement, the mental
7 health and substance abuse special fund can sustain both
8 existing program operations and new capital improvements related
9 to crisis stabilization beds.

10 SECTION 2. Section 334-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

12 "(a) There is established a special fund to be known as
13 the mental health and substance abuse special fund into which
14 shall be deposited all revenues and other moneys collected from
15 certification programs and treatment services rendered by the
16 mental health and substance abuse programs operated by the
17 State. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the
18 department is authorized to establish separate accounts within
19 the special fund for depositing moneys received from
20 certification programs and from each mental health and substance
21 abuse program. Moneys deposited into the respective accounts of



- 1 each program shall be used for the payment of the operating
- 2 expenses or capital improvements of the respective program."
- 3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
- 4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Special Fund; Capital
Improvement Projects

Description:

Authorizes expenditures from the mental health and substance
abuse special fund to be used for capital improvement projects.

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

