RELATING TO MEDICAID.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that title 42 Code of Federal Regulations section 431.53 requires that a state's medicaid plan ensure necessary transportation for medicaid recipients to and from medicaid service providers and must describe the methods used to meet the transportation requirement.

The legislature further finds that the Hawaii medicaid state plan provides non-emergency individualized transportation such as taxi transportation for medicaid recipients "in areas not served by a bus system, or when travel by bus would be either hazardous or cause extreme hardship to a recipient who is ill or has a physical or mental impairment." However, many of Hawaii's medicaid recipients with disabilities do not qualify for non-emergency individualized transportation under the Hawaii medicaid state plan because they are physically and mentally able to take the city and county of Honolulu's special transit service for persons with disabilities. Thus, Honolulu's special
transit service is the only non-emergency medical transportation option for some medicaid recipients with disabilities who require non-emergency medical transportation in order to receive medicaid services, do not have access to a private vehicle, or are not eligible for non-emergency individualized transportation services, such as taxi transportation.

The legislature recognizes that Honolulu's special transit service, with increased funding, could provide more efficient and effective transportation services for medicaid recipients with disabilities.

The legislature further recognizes that Honolulu's special transit service, as a public transit system which transports medicaid recipients to and from providers of medicaid services, is eligible to receive funding from the department of human services, Med-QUEST division, for non-emergency medical transportation.

The purpose of this Act is to require the department of human services, Med-QUEST division, to amend the Hawaii medicaid state plan to include the city and county of Honolulu's special transit service as a method of providing non-emergency medical transportation so that the special transit service may qualify
as a provider of non-emergency medical transportation and
receive reimbursement for transportation medicaid recipients to
and from providers of medicaid services.

SECTION 2. The department of human services, Med-QUEST
division, shall amend the Hawaii medicaid state plan to include
the city and county of Honolulu's special transit service as a
method used to ensure necessary transportation of medicaid
recipients to and from providers of medicaid services.

SECTION 3. The department of human services, Med-QUEST
division, shall submit the amended Hawaii medicaid state plan to
the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for review and
approval.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY: [Signature]
Report Title:
Medicaid; Special Transit Services; Non-Emergency Medical Transportation; Hawaii State Medicaid Plan; Amendment

Description:
Requires the department of human services, Med-QUEST division, to amend the Hawaii medicaid state plan to include the city and county of Honolulu's special transit service as a method of providing non-emergency medical transportation so that the special transit service may receive reimbursement.

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