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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH PLANNING.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the World Health  
2   Organization, the United States Department of Health and Human  
3   Services's Healthy People 2020 Initiative, and the Centers for  
4   Disease Control and Prevention all recognize social determinants  
5   of health as the single most important factor in individual and  
6   population health outcomes, more so than genetic disposition or  
7   medical care. The legislature further finds that the Hawaii  
8   State Planning Act does not explicitly recognize social  
9   determinants of health as an important component of health  
10  planning.

11           The legislature also notes that the October 2013 report,  
12  "Assessment and Priorities for Health & Well-Being in Native  
13  Hawaiians & Other Pacific Peoples," by the John A. Burns School  
14  of Medicine, identifies a number of social and other  
15  determinants of health for Native Hawaiians, other Pacific  
16  Islanders, and Filipinos, who collectively continue to have  
17  disparate health outcomes compared to the rest of the state  
18  population. The legislature finds that reducing these health



1 disparities through a social determinants of health approach may  
2 directly and indirectly improve health outcomes and the quality  
3 of life for Native Hawaiians, other Pacific islanders,  
4 Filipinos, and all residents of the State.

5 The purpose of this Act is to update the Hawaii State  
6 Planning Act's objectives for health to include a commitment to  
7 eliminating health disparities by explicitly addressing social  
8 determinants of health in order to reflect the latest medical  
9 findings relating to the health needs of Native Hawaiians, other  
10 Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos.

11 SECTION 2. Section 226-20, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 **"§226-20 Objectives and policies for socio-cultural**  
14 **advancement--health.** (a) Planning for the State's socio-  
15 cultural advancement with regard to health shall be directed  
16 towards achievement of the following objectives:

- 17 (1) Fulfillment of basic individual health needs of the  
18 general public.
- 19 (2) Maintenance of sanitary and environmentally healthful  
20 conditions in Hawaii's communities.
- 21 (3) Elimination of health disparities by identifying and  
22 addressing social determinants of health.



1 (b) To achieve the health objectives, it shall be the  
2 policy of this State to:

3 (1) Provide adequate and accessible services and  
4 facilities for prevention and treatment of physical  
5 and mental health problems, including substance abuse.

6 (2) Encourage improved cooperation among public and  
7 private sectors in the provision of health care to  
8 accommodate the total health needs of individuals  
9 throughout the State.

10 (3) Encourage public and private efforts to develop and  
11 promote statewide and local strategies to reduce  
12 health care and related insurance costs.

13 (4) Foster an awareness of the need for personal health  
14 maintenance and preventive health care through  
15 education and other measures.

16 (5) Provide programs, services, and activities that ensure  
17 environmentally healthful and sanitary conditions.

18 (6) Improve the State's capabilities in preventing  
19 contamination by pesticides and other potentially  
20 hazardous substances through increased coordination,  
21 education, monitoring, and enforcement.



1        (7) Prioritize programs, services, interventions, and  
2        activities that address identified social determinants  
3        of health to reduce health disparities of Native  
4        Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos."

5        SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

7        SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2030.



**Report Title:**

OHA Package; State Planning Act; Health Disparities

**Description:**

Adds to the Hawaii State Planning Act's objectives and policies for health the identification of social determinants of health to reduce health disparities among Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos. Effective July 1, 2030.  
(HB1616 HD1)

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

