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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEDICAL INVESTIGATIONS BY THE REGULATED INDUSTRIES  
COMPLAINTS OFFICE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the regulated  
2 industries complaints office of the department of commerce and  
3 consumer affairs enforces various regulations governing  
4 professions and occupations that are licensed in the State. The  
5 regulated industries complaints office investigates allegations  
6 of professional misconduct by licensees and any possible  
7 unlicensed activity that may be occurring in the State. The  
8 enforcement of certain professional and occupational regulations  
9 can be especially challenging when these professions and  
10 occupations involve complex medical issues and scopes of  
11 practice that are widely varied. Despite the regulated  
12 industries complaints office's critical role in protecting  
13 consumers by enforcing regulations that impact physical and  
14 mental health, the agency lacks investigators with specialized  
15 experience or expertise in medical issues.

16           The purpose of this Act is to:



1 (1) Statutorily establish a division of the regulated  
2 industries complaints office that specializes in  
3 medical cases; and

4 (2) Appropriate funds to establish five full-time  
5 equivalent (5.0 FTE) field investigators who  
6 specialize in medical cases within the regulated  
7 industries complaints office.

8 SECTION 2. Section 26-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

10 "(b) The department shall protect the interests of  
11 consumers, depositors, and investors throughout the State. It  
12 shall set standards and enforce all laws and rules governing the  
13 licensing and operation of, and register and supervise the  
14 conduct of, trades, businesses, and professions, including  
15 banks, insurance companies, brokerage firms, and other financial  
16 institutions.

17 The regulated industries complaints office shall establish  
18 a division that specializes in the investigation of medical  
19 cases involving professions and occupations regulated by the  
20 department of commerce and consumer affairs pursuant to title  
21 25."



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for five  
4 full-time equivalent (5.0 FTE) field investigators who  
5 specialize in medical cases within the department of commerce  
6 and consumer affairs' regulated industries complaints office;  
7 provided that two positions shall be designated for the city and  
8 county of Honolulu, one position shall be designated for the  
9 county of Hawaii, one position shall be designated for the  
10 county of Maui, and one position shall be designated for the  
11 county of Kauai.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
13 commerce and consumer affairs for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2070.



**Report Title:**

Regulated Industries Complaints Office; Medical Investigations;  
Positions; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Regulated Industries Complaints Office to establish a division that specializes in the investigation of medical cases involving professions and occupations regulated by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Appropriates funds for field investigator positions. (HB1627 HD1)

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

