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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR DENTAL HEALTH.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that inadequate dental  
2 care is a serious matter and has been identified as one of the  
3 major health concerns for low-income adults and children, people  
4 with developmental disabilities, and the uninsured. These  
5 individuals continually face great challenges in accessing  
6 dental care services in an appropriate and timely manner. The  
7 lack of dental care for this population is profound and  
8 unacceptable.

9           The legislature further finds that federally qualified  
10 health centers are the appropriate and most efficient entity to  
11 establish community-based dental clinics statewide that will  
12 provide a continuum of dental care based on best practices for  
13 QUEST-eligible adults and children and disabled population.

14           The purpose of this Act is to increase the State's ability  
15 to address the dental-health crisis it faces regarding  
16 QUEST-eligible adults and children, the developmentally  
17 disabled, and uninsured by:



- 1 (1) Appropriating funds to the department of health to
- 2 contract with federally qualified health centers to
- 3 help the greatest number of individuals who need
- 4 dental care and maximizing the potential for this
- 5 assistance by minimizing administrative costs; and
- 6 (2) Allowing greater flexibility in the provision of this
- 7 care by establishing community-based dental health
- 8 clinics that are operated by federally qualified
- 9 health centers or other community-based organizations.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1 or so much thereof  
12 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 for equipment and  
13 service delivery to establish community-based dental health  
14 clinics operated by federally qualified health centers or other  
15 community-based organizations to provide a continuum of dental  
16 care to QUEST-eligible adults and children, the developmentally  
17 disabled, and the uninsured.

18 SECTION 3. The continuum of dental care should consist of  
19 but not be limited to:

- 20 (1) A lead primary care dentist who is trained by an
- 21 accredited dental school in the treatment of
- 22 individuals with disabilities;



1 (2) Faculty supervision from dentists from an accredited  
2 dental school providing appropriate sedation training;  
3 and

4 (3) Hospital-based care for anesthesia services.

5 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the  
6 department of health for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

HB3259, SD1

**Report Title:**

Dental Health

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the DOH for community-based dental health clinics that are operated by federally qualified health centers or other community-based organizations to assist and improve the dental health of QUEST-eligible adults and children, the developmentally disabled, and the uninsured. (SD1)

