
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PSYCHIATRIC RESIDENCY STIPEND PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State of Hawaii
2 has an interest in assuring healthcare for its citizens, and
3 that the social costs of untreated mental illness are incurred
4 in increased unemployment, homelessness, domestic violence,
5 crime, and unsafe schools, streets, and communities.

6 Individuals with mental illness require the assistance of
7 trained mental health professionals and appropriate mental
8 health services to improve the quality of their lives. Recent
9 findings indicate that mental health services are not reaching
10 populations in rural areas, the neighbor islands, and those
11 populations with high rates of poverty who lack insurance.
12 Financial incentives need to be extended to physicians to treat
13 the poor and medically uninsured in underserved areas.

14 A contract between the department of health, adult mental
15 health division and the university of Hawaii school of
16 medicine's department of psychiatry formerly provided monthly
17 compensation stipends to psychiatric residents during the



1 residency period in return for a promise to provide psychiatric
2 and mental health services for the adult mental health division
3 immediately after the conclusion of the resident's residency for
4 a period equal to the time for which the resident received a
5 stipend. The residents in this program served neighbor island
6 clinics, including the mental health center on Molokai, and
7 helped meet the needs of underserved populations and areas.
8 Nevertheless, the stipends were discontinued in 1998 due to a
9 lack of funds.

10 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for this
11 cost-effective and beneficial program.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, to
15 reestablish the psychiatric residency stipend program of the
16 university of Hawaii school of medicine's department of
17 psychiatry and the department of health to improve access to
18 appropriate mental health services for underserved areas and
19 underserved populations.

20 SECTION 3. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
21 university of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 4. The university of Hawaii school of medicine's
2 department of psychiatry and department of health shall submit a
3 progress report on their reestablishment of the psychiatric
4 residency stipend program to the legislature no later than
5 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
6 2007.

7 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.
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INTRODUCED BY: Inzanne Chun Oakland

Carrie Fukunaga

Bill Kanoo

Annie Y. Lee

Roslyn H. Baker

Will Sykes



Report Title:

UH; Psychiatric Residency Stipend Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii School of Medicine to reestablish the Psychiatric Residency Stipend Program

