
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO KIDNEY DISEASE.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) More than a century ago, Mother Marianne
2 Cope and six Sisters of the Third Franciscan Order of Syracuse,
3 New York, arrived in the islands in response to an urgent plea
4 for their assistance in caring for the victims of Hansen's
5 Disease. Mother Marianne and the Sisters began their service at
6 the Branch Leper Hospital in Honolulu and five years later began
7 serving in the Leper Settlement at Kalaupapa on Molokai. Since
8 1883, the Sister of St. Francis' mission as advocates for the
9 poor and disadvantaged continues through the work of St. Francis
10 Healthcare System and its staff, fulfilling their historic role
11 as visionaries and risk-takers. The St. Francis Healthcare
12 System's history is steep with inventive methods for addressing
13 health care needs, including organ transplants, hemodialysis,
14 home care, and hospice programs.

15 St. Francis Healthcare System is developing an innovative
16 concept for the residents of Hawaii with *Stay Healthy at Home*, a
17 program for Hawaii's expanding older adult population and
18 patients of chronic diseases. This program provides services



1 that allow them to stay at home for as long as possible, and
2 brings health care to patients right where they live. *Stay*
3 *Healthy at Home* is modeled after a successful Boston program
4 that offers services on a fee-for-service basis. *Stay Healthy*
5 *at Home* will promote independent living and arrange a host of
6 individualized supportive care services on an à la carte, fee-
7 for-service basis in the person's home. The general concept of
8 the program includes:

- 9 (1) Ongoing training and educational sessions for chronic
10 disease self-management that targets the appropriate
11 population;
- 12 (2) Wellness promotion by providing individuals with
13 support services required at various levels of aging,
14 such as medication management oversight by pharmacist
15 and registered nurse; and
- 16 (3) Case management for specific health issues, such as
17 chronic heart disease, diabetes, and kidney disease
18 with referrals to community resources and support
19 services.

20 (b) Within the *Stay Healthy at Home* concept and consistent
21 with promoting independent living, St. Francis Healthcare System
22 is developing a major health care initiative in the area of



1 chronic kidney disease through a four year demonstration project
2 to:

3 (1) Address health care access issues for chronic kidney
4 disease patients located in target rural areas of
5 Hawaii based on need and demographics;

6 (2) Develop a proving model for a modified home
7 hemodialysis program in rural areas for sustainable
8 reimbursements from the Centers for Medicare and
9 Medicaid Services; and

10 (3) Develop a research program with the National Kidney
11 Foundation in conjunction with the University of
12 Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine that focuses
13 on stabilizing and slowing down the progression of
14 chronic kidney disease.

15 (c) The legislature finds that chronic kidney disease,
16 which is divided into five stages, affects all age groups.
17 Patients at the last stage, or end stage renal disease, require
18 dialysis or kidney transplantation. The cost of treatment and
19 care for end stage renal disease patients is much higher than
20 for patients at the earlier stages.

21 It is estimated that ten per cent of the Hawaii's
22 population, or one hundred thousand individuals, are afflicted



1 with chronic kidney disease. Approximately two thousand of
2 these patients have end stage renal disease. The prevalence
3 rate of end stage renal diseases in Hawaii is 1,502 per million.
4 This is forty-four per cent higher than the national rate of
5 1,040 per million. The number of end stage renal disease
6 patients in Hawaii is increasing at an annual rate of five per
7 cent, while the national rate has declined to one per cent. The
8 current cost of caring for end stage renal disease patients in
9 the State is \$125,000,000, and that cost is projected to reach
10 \$144,000,000 by 2011.

11 The legislature further finds that the St. Francis
12 Healthcare System is developing a major chronic kidney disease
13 health care demonstration project to address health care access
14 issues for end stage renal disease in remote areas of Hawaii.
15 It is also developing a research program to help care for
16 patients with chronic kidney disease. The focus of the
17 demonstration project is to promote education, detection,
18 prevention, and medical management, and treatment for those with
19 chronic kidney disease through a modified home care and
20 community health program. Under this program, patients in
21 various stages of chronic renal disease would be able to visit a



1 common site within their own community to receive necessary
2 care.

3 The legislature further finds that locating a treatment and
4 care site within patients' own communities will greatly improve
5 their quality of life, especially patients with end stage renal
6 disease. End stage renal disease patients, especially those who
7 live in remote areas of the State, would not have to bear the
8 physical punishment of enduring long commutes to a dialysis
9 facility. For example, many end stage renal disease patients
10 living in rural communities presently must travel several hours
11 to a dialysis clinic for treatment. After four hours of
12 dialysis, they must endure the return trip home. In order to
13 live, these patients must tolerate this tortuous ordeal three
14 times a week.

15 Logistical challenges, such as allocating adequate space in
16 a patient's home, the need for reliable electric and water
17 service, and proper medical waste disposal, make home dialysis
18 impractical. Furthermore, many end stage renal disease patients
19 live in multi-generational households where space and privacy
20 are at a premium.

21 The legislature further finds that constructing full-scale
22 dialysis facilities within isolated rural communities would not



1 be cost-effective. An estimated minimum of sixty patients would
2 be needed for such a facility to break even. The costs of
3 start-up and maintenance of full-scale facilities in remote
4 areas would be prohibitive and unrealistic.

5 (d) The demonstration project proposes a facility located
6 in a rural community to be selected based on need and
7 demographics. The project would use a modified home care and
8 community health approach that would allow dialysis patients to
9 place their personal dialysis machines within a common facility.
10 These facilities would have the necessary infrastructure and
11 logistics to accommodate the machines, and trained personnel
12 would be available to administer and monitor treatment. At the
13 same facility, a multidisciplinary chronic kidney disease team
14 would deliver various services including:

- 15 (1) Patient education;
- 16 (2) Dietary counseling;
- 17 (3) Psychosocial counseling;
- 18 (4) Laboratory screening;
- 19 (5) Preventive vaccinations and primary care physician
20 consultation;



- 1 (6) Evaluation and treatment of co-morbid conditions such
- 2 as hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and
- 3 hyperlipidemia;
- 4 (7) End stage renal disease counseling;
- 5 (8) Early referral to nephrologists and vascular surgeons;
- 6 (9) End stage renal disease social worker psychological
- 7 evaluation and counseling; and
- 8 (10) Education to address patient and family financial
- 9 issues.
- 10 (e) The first stage of the project would involve:
- 11 (1) Construction of a permanent community center to care
- 12 for chronic disease patients;
- 13 (2) Providing and underwriting equipment, supplies,
- 14 caregivers, and dialysis treatment for end stage renal
- 15 disease patients;
- 16 (3) Providing and underwriting community health
- 17 screenings;
- 18 (4) Establishing a chronic kidney disease treatment
- 19 program for the community;
- 20 (5) Establishing an information technology infrastructure
- 21 and database on chronic kidney disease research; and



1 (6) Establishing and developing a chronic kidney disease
2 research program with the John A. Burns school of
3 medicine.

4 In the second stage of the demonstration project, patients
5 living in remote areas who have available space in their homes
6 for hemodialysis would have the opportunity for a trained
7 caregiver to work with them.

8 (f) The legislature finds that the St. Francis Healthcare
9 System meets the requirements of a grant recipient under section
10 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and that a grant to the St.
11 Francis Healthcare System to develop and implement the modified
12 home care and community health demonstration project for chronic
13 kidney disease patients is in the public interest and for the
14 public health, safety, and general welfare.

15 The purpose of this Act is to award a grant to St. Francis
16 Healthcare System to develop and implement the modified home
17 care and community health demonstration project to provide
18 necessary treatment for chronic kidney patients and end stage
19 renal disease patients in rural areas of the State.

20 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,700,000 or so much
22 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 as a grant



1 pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to the St.
 2 Francis Healthcare System to develop and implement the modified
 3 home care and community health demonstration project; provided
 4 that no funds shall be released pursuant to this Act unless
 5 matched with \$1,000,000 by St. Francis Healthcare System, the
 6 National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii, federal funds, other
 7 private funds, or a combination thereof.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
 9 health for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Machane J. Mays
John M. Mays
Melie Carroll
Karen Awana
John M.
Karl Brooks
John M. Kuanata
Paul

John P. Hancock
John J. Mays
Melie Carroll
Karl
John M.
Paul

John M.
Paul



Report Title:

Health; Chronic Kidney Disease

Description:

Awards a grant to St. Francis Healthcare System to support the modified home care and community health demonstration project; requires \$1,000,000 in matching funds. Effective 7/1/08.

