
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
FOR THE ADULT MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION.

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

1 SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for
2 immediate passage in accordance with section 9 of article VII of
3 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

4 SECTION 2. Although funds were appropriated to the
5 department of health for adult mental health services for the
6 fiscal period beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008,
7 a critical funding emergency now exists. The program will
8 expend all appropriated funds before the end of the current
9 fiscal year, and the department will be unable to meet its
10 fiscal obligation to provide services to certain adults with
11 severe mental illness.

12 The adult mental health division serves a continuously
13 increasing number of eligible mental health consumers.
14 Concurrently throughout the year, the adult mental health
15 division has increased its related services in the areas of case
16 management, crisis services, treatment services, rehabilitation
17 services, and housing. This emergency increase is to continue



1 existing services to meet the needs of the expanding eligible
2 population and to continue funding of required services
3 developed during the fiscal year.

4 An emergency appropriation is also needed as the one-time
5 Medicaid Rehab Option retroactive billing opportunity has
6 passed, resulting in a deficit in federal matching funds.
7 Additional emergency funding is also required to address higher
8 operational costs at the Hawaii state hospital as a result of an
9 increased census.

10 A severe shortage of mental health specialists available to
11 provide critical psychiatric services, particularly in rural
12 communities and neighbor islands, has created an extremely
13 volatile situation necessitating emergency appropriations. A
14 psychiatric health services pilot project is urgently needed to
15 provide an integrated behavioral model at the Bay Clinic, West
16 Hawaii community health center, and other federally qualified
17 community health centers on the island of Hawaii to provide:

- 18 (1) Collaborative relationships between psychiatrists and
19 primary care physicians to treat these patients; and
20 (2) A mental health team to provide patients with
21 necessary mental health care.



1 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate emergency funds
2 for:

- 3 (1) Ongoing services of the adult mental health division,
4 revenue shortfall;
- 5 (2) Operational costs at the Hawaii state hospital; and
- 6 (3) The establishment and implementation of a psychiatric
7 health services pilot project.

8 SECTION 3. **Psychiatric health services; pilot project;**

9 **expansion.** There is established within the department of
10 health's adult mental health division for administrative
11 purposes the psychiatric health services pilot project to enable
12 psychiatrists to collaborate with primary care physicians and a
13 mental health team at the Bay Clinic, West Hawaii community
14 health center, and any other federally qualified health centers
15 on the island of Hawaii to provide patients with needed
16 psychiatric health care. The pilot program shall provide two
17 psychiatrists and a licensed clinical social worker to work with
18 existing mental health providers at participating health centers
19 to treat any patient in need of psychiatric services.

20 The department of health's adult mental health division
21 shall submit an annual report to the legislature on the pilot
22 program no later than January 15, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012.



1 The initial report shall include funding proposals for the pilot
2 program for the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium as well as any
3 proposed legislation.

4 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$10,300,000 or so
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 to be
7 spent as follows:

- 8 (1) \$10,000,000 for ongoing services provided by the adult
9 mental health division, revenue shortfall, and
10 operational costs at the Hawaii state hospital; and
11 (2) \$300,000 for the establishment and implementation of
12 the psychiatric health services pilot project.

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

15 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
16 provided that section 3 of this Act shall be repealed on June
17 30, 2011.



Report Title:

Emergency Appropriation for the Adult Mental Health Division

Description:

To authorize an emergency appropriation for fiscal year 2007-2008 of \$10,300,000 from general funds to the Department of Health (DOH), for the Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD).
(HB3146 HD1)

