
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INTERVENTION FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Medical personnel, particularly in emergency
2 rooms and trauma centers, regularly encounter patients who have
3 sustained injuries, loss, or trauma resulting from the use of
4 alcohol or other drugs. This initial point of contact in a
5 medical setting is a recognized window of opportunity where
6 patients are most vulnerable and open to intervention and
7 dialogue that address their underlying alcohol or illegal drug
8 issues. It is at this "teachable moment" that individuals can
9 benefit from an assessment, education, counseling, or, if
10 necessary, referral to treatment.

11 The "screening, brief intervention, referral and treatment"
12 program capitalizes on this "teachable moment" in medical
13 settings by offering screening, brief intervention, education,
14 and, if necessary, referrals to appropriate care or treatment
15 for individuals at risk for, or diagnosed with, alcohol and
16 other substance use disorders.

17 This evidence-based, cost-effective program is recognized
18 as a best practice model by the Substance Abuse and Mental



1 Health Services Administration, an agency of the United States
 2 Department of Health and Human Services. Successful screening,
 3 brief intervention, referral, and treatment programs have been
 4 implemented and are ongoing in other states, including
 5 California, Alaska, Illinois, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Texas,
 6 and Washington. Evidence from existing screening, brief
 7 intervention, referral, and treatment programs conducted in
 8 medical settings has shown dramatic reductions in alcohol and
 9 other drug use among patients receiving services.

10 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to
 11 establish a pilot program for screening, brief intervention, and
 12 referral to substance abuse treatment in the State of Hawaii.

13 SECTION 2. There is established a pilot program for
 14 screening, brief intervention and referral to substance abuse
 15 treatment, which shall be sited at the emergency department of a
 16 major urban medical facility in Honolulu.

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
 19 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and
 20 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
 21 year 2008-2009, to implement the pilot program for screening,
 22 brief intervention, and referral to substance abuse treatment.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
2 of Hawaii, through its John A. Burns school of medicine, for the
3 purposes of this Act.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



Report Title:

Substance Abuse; Intervention

Description:

Establishes a pilot program for screening, brief intervention,
and referral to substance abuse treatment. (SD1)

