

JAN 18 2008

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

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

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately  
3 designated and to read as follows:

4           "§346-    Eligibility for public assistance; asset  
5 disregard. (a) The determination for eligibility for any  
6 public assistance program specified under subsection (b) shall  
7 disregard in its entirety the value of any asset, owned by the  
8 applicant or recipient, including:

- 9           (1) Personal property;  
10          (2) Real property;  
11          (3) Automobiles or motor vehicles;  
12          (4) Individual development accounts;  
13          (5) Individual retirement accounts;  
14          (6) Burial spaces and funeral plans;  
15          (7) Household goods (for example, appliances, furniture,  
16             and televisions);



- 1        (8) Personal effects (for example, clothes, shoes, and
- 2                jewelry not intended for investment);
- 3        (9) The cash value of life insurance policies;
- 4        (10) The cash value of pension plans or funds;
- 5        (11) Work-related equipment (for example, tools and
- 6                equipment used in a trade); and
- 7        (12) Liquid assets that can quickly be converted into cash
- 8                (for example, bank accounts, stocks, and bonds);

9 without regard to the nature or extent of the ownership interest  
 10 of the applicant or recipient in the asset, the value of the  
 11 equity (fair market value minus encumbrances), or in the case of  
 12 real property, the nature of the tenancy or the right thereto.

13        (b) Subsection (a) shall apply to the medicaid program,  
 14 temporary assistance to needy families program; food stamp  
 15 program; financial assistance program; MedQUEST program; and  
 16 QUEST-Net program."

17        SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

18        SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:     Franne Chun Oakland      
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**Report Title:**

Public Assistance; Disregard of Assets; Keiki Caucus

**Description:**

Requires the department of human services to disregard specified assets for purposes of determining eligibility for certain public assistance benefits.

