

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the costs of living  
2 and health care coverage in the State are increasing for many  
3 residents. From time to time, in order to ensure maximum  
4 effectiveness, the State must evaluate the success of programs  
5 that alleviate, if at all, any discrepancies that may exist  
6 between the cost of living and health care expenditures, which  
7 discrepancies may differ by region, household make-up, or any  
8 number of other factors. For this reason, state-funded health  
9 insurance programs covering certain individuals deemed eligible  
10 under various federal and state guidelines should be analyzed to  
11 determine the social and economic consequences presented by  
12 these programs.

13           The purpose of this Act is to effectuate the  
14 recommendations of the Maui health initiative task force  
15 established pursuant to Act 219, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007.

16           SECTION 2. The legislative reference bureau shall compile  
17 and analyze existing studies of the various state-funded



1 portions of medicaid-sponsored programs offered by the State  
2 pursuant to chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, including  
3 medicaid and med-QUEST.

4 The analysis of the various state-funded medicaid programs  
5 shall include:

- 6 (A) The level of public demand;
- 7 (B) The kinds of services being accessed through the  
8 programs, whether emergent, associated with long-term  
9 illness, etc.;
- 10 (C) The household make-up of program benefit recipients,  
11 including ages, number of wage-earners, types of  
12 professions, highest education levels attained, number  
13 of children, and household location;
- 14 (D) The potential for any health care alternatives for  
15 program benefit recipients; and
- 16 (E) Any impact on insureds of medicaid benefits versus  
17 other types of health insurance, such as morbidity,  
18 mortality, quality of the care provided, or related  
19 topics.

20 The legislative reference bureau may contract the services  
21 of a private contractor to conduct all or a portion of the study



1 as it deems appropriate. Any contract executed pursuant to this  
2 Act shall be exempt from chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

3 SECTION 3. The legislative reference bureau shall submit a  
4 report of its findings and recommendations, including any  
5 necessary proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than  
6 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of  
7 2009.

8 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for  
11 the legislative reference bureau to conduct the study described  
12 in section 2 of this Act.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the legislative  
14 reference bureau.

15 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
16 provided that section 4 shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



**Report Title:**

Health Care; LRB Study; Medicaid; Med-QUEST; Appropriation

**Description:**

Authorizes LRB to compile and analyze existing studies of the various state-funded portions of medicaid-sponsored programs offered by the State pursuant to chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, including medicaid and med-QUEST; makes appropriation.  
(SD1)

