
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 346-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "§346-14 Duties generally. Except as otherwise provided
4 by law, the department of human services shall:

5 (1) Establish and administer programs and standards, and
6 adopt rules as deemed necessary for all public
7 assistance programs;

8 (2) Establish, extend, and strengthen services for the
9 protection and care of abused or neglected children
10 and children in danger of becoming delinquent to make
11 paramount the safety and health of children who have
12 been harmed or are in life circumstances that threaten
13 harm;

14 (3) Establish and administer programs, and adopt rules as
15 deemed necessary, for the prevention of domestic and
16 sexual violence and the protection and treatment of
17 victims of domestic and sexual violence;

18 (4) Assist in preventing family breakdown;



1 (5) Place, or cooperate in placing, abused or neglected
2 children in suitable private homes or institutions and
3 place, or cooperate in placing, children in suitable
4 adoptive homes;

5 (6) Have authority to establish, maintain, and operate
6 receiving homes for the temporary care and custody of
7 abused or neglected children until suitable plans are
8 made for their care; and accept from the police and
9 other agencies, for temporary care and custody, any
10 abused or neglected child until satisfactory plans are
11 made for the child;

12 (7) Administer the medical assistance programs for
13 eligible public welfare and other medically needy
14 individuals by establishing standards, eligibility,
15 and health care participation rules, payment
16 methodologies, reimbursement allowances, systems to
17 monitor recipient and provider compliance, and
18 assuring compliance with federal requirements to
19 maximize federal financial participation; provided
20 that on June 30, 2011, the department shall terminate
21 QUEST and shall resume the public assistance programs
22 that were replaced by QUEST, including, but not



1 limited to, the state health insurance program;
2 provided further that those previous programs have
3 similar benefits as QUEST;

4 (8) Cooperate with the federal government in carrying out
5 the purposes of the Social Security Act and in other
6 matters of mutual concern pertaining to public
7 welfare, public assistance, and child welfare
8 services, including the making of reports, the
9 adoption of methods of administration, and the making
10 of rules as are found by the federal government, or
11 any properly constituted authority thereunder, to be
12 necessary or desirable for the efficient operation of
13 the plans for public welfare, assistance, and child
14 welfare services or as may be necessary or desirable
15 for the receipt of financial assistance from the
16 federal government;

17 (9) Carry on research and compile statistics relative to
18 public and private welfare activities throughout the
19 State, including those dealing with dependence,
20 defectiveness, delinquency, and related problems;



- 1 (10) Develop plans in cooperation with other public and
2 private agencies for the prevention and treatment of
3 conditions giving rise to public welfare problems;
- 4 (11) Adopt rules governing the procedure in hearings,
5 investigations, recording, registration, determination
6 of allowances, and accounting and conduct other
7 activities as may be necessary or proper to carry out
8 this chapter;
- 9 (12) Supervise or administer any other activities
10 authorized or required by this chapter, including the
11 development of the staff of the department through in-
12 service training and educational leave to attend
13 schools and other appropriate measures, and any other
14 activities placed under the jurisdiction of the
15 department by any other law;
- 16 (13) Make, prescribe, and enforce policies and rules
17 governing the activities provided for in section 346-
18 31 it deems advisable, including the allocation of
19 moneys available for assistance to persons assigned to
20 work projects among the several counties or to
21 particular projects where the apportionment has not



1 been made pursuant to other provisions of law, if any,
2 governing expenditures of the funds;

3 (14) Determine the appropriate level for the Hawaii
4 security net, by developing a tracking and monitoring
5 system to determine what segments of the population
6 are not able to afford the basic necessities of life,
7 and advise the legislature annually regarding the
8 resources required to maintain the security net at the
9 appropriate level;

10 (15) Subject to the appropriation of state funds and
11 availability of federal matching assistance, expand
12 optional health care to low-income persons as follows:

13 (A) Pregnant women and infants under one year of age
14 living in families with incomes up to one hundred
15 eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty level
16 and without any asset restrictions;

17 (B) Children under six years of age living in
18 families with incomes up to one hundred thirty-
19 three per cent of the federal poverty level and
20 without any asset restrictions;

21 (C) Older children to the extent permitted under
22 optional federal medicaid rules;



- 1 (D) Elder persons;
- 2 (E) Aliens;
- 3 (F) The homeless; and
- 4 (G) Other handicapped and medically needy persons;
- 5 and

6 (16) Subject to the appropriation of state funds and
7 availability of federal matching assistance, establish
8 the income eligibility level for the medically needy
9 program at one hundred thirty-three per cent of the
10 assistance allowance."

11 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

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

13

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 26 2010



Report Title:

Department of Human Services; QUEST

Description:

Directs the department of human services to replace its QUEST program with the predecessor public assistance programs including the state health insurance program.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

