
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FOR HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
CORPORATION FOR OPERATIONAL COSTS.

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

PART I

1
2 SECTION 1. The legislature recognizes that the State's
3 community hospital system, Hawaii health systems corporation, is
4 the fourth largest public hospital system in the nation. The
5 Hawaii health systems corporation's public health facilities
6 provide essential safety-net hospital and long-term care
7 services throughout the state and are often the only hospitals
8 in many rural communities. The predominant portion of the
9 Hawaii health care system's gross revenue payer mix is from
10 government-provided health insurance payers, who are considered
11 high-risk payers because their payments typically do not cover
12 costs and are not especially timely. Hawaii health systems
13 corporation has experienced cash flow difficulties in the past
14 fiscal periods, has initiated contingency strategies to meet
15 revenue shortfalls, and is facing additional financial burdens
16 in the current 2009-2010 fiscal year due to government-provided
17 health insurance plan payment delays. Without available cash to



1 absorb delays in payments, the facilities face an exacerbated
2 financial condition with cash flow difficulties and an increased
3 accounts payable, which strains their ability to remain viable
4 and respond to the needs of the specific communities served.

5 The purpose of this part is to provide the Hawaii health
6 systems corporation with emergency funding to ensure the
7 continuous delivery of critical health care services and for the
8 payment of its operational costs.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$16,397,000 or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010, to
12 be deposited into the health systems special fund established
13 under section 323F-21, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

14 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the health systems
15 special fund the sum of \$16,397,000 or so much thereof as may be
16 necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010, to ensure continuous
17 delivery of critical health care services and for the payment of
18 the operational costs of the Hawaii health systems corporation.

19 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii health
20 systems corporation East Hawaii regional health care system (HTH
21 212) for the purposes of this part.



1 PART II

2 SECTION 4. The Hawaii health systems corporation East
3 Hawaii regional health care system, in the effort to bring more
4 caregivers, including physicians, advance practice registered
5 nurses (nurse practitioners), pharmacists, and nurses to the
6 Island of Hawaii to address a critical caregiver shortage
7 situation, is committed to the establishment of the Big Island
8 rural interdisciplinary program, a program affiliated with the
9 University of Hawaii's John A. Burns school of medicine, school
10 of nursing and dental hygiene, school of pharmacy in Hilo, and
11 baccalaureate nursing department in Hilo. This residency
12 program is intended to familiarize family medicine residents,
13 advance practice registered nurse (nurse practitioner) students,
14 pharmacy residents, and nursing students with the unique health
15 care needs of our neighbor island communities, in addition to
16 serving as a supplementary recruitment and retention option.
17 The ability to bring new caregivers to practice in the community
18 health center ensures that our hospitals will be able to provide
19 necessary health care services to residents and visitors in this
20 health care professional shortage area.



1 The purpose of this part is to provide emergency funding
2 for the establishment of the Big Island rural interdisciplinary
3 program in the East Hawaii region.

4 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,500,000 or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010, for the
7 establishment of the Big Island rural interdisciplinary program
8 in the East Hawaii region.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii health
10 systems corporation East Hawaii regional health care system (HTH
11 212) for the purposes of this part.

12 PART III

13 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; Emergency Funding

Description:

Appropriates emergency funding to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to ensure the continuous delivery of critical health care services and for the payment of HHSC's operational costs, and establish the Big Island Rural Interdisciplinary Program in the East Hawaii region. (HB2801 HD1)

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