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# 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:**

1 SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for  
2 immediate passage in accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
3 the Hawaii Constitution.

4 **PART I**

5 SECTION 2. The legislature recognizes that the State's  
6 community hospital system, Hawaii health systems corporation, is  
7 the fourth largest public hospital system in the nation. The  
8 Hawaii health systems corporation's public health facilities  
9 provide essential safety-net hospital and long-term care  
10 services throughout the state and are often the only hospitals  
11 in many rural communities. The predominant portion of the  
12 Hawaii health care system's gross revenue payer mix is from  
13 government-provided health insurance payers, who are considered  
14 high-risk payers because their payments typically do not cover  
15 costs and are not especially timely. The Hawaii health systems  
16 corporation has experienced cash flow difficulties in the past  
17 fiscal periods, has initiated contingency strategies to meet



1 revenue shortfalls, and is facing additional financial burdens  
2 in the current 2009-2010 fiscal year due to government-provided  
3 health insurance plan payment delays. Without available cash to  
4 absorb delays in payments, the facilities face exacerbated cash-  
5 flow difficulties and an increased accounts payable, which  
6 strains their ability to remain viable and respond to the needs  
7 of the specific communities served.

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

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 to be  
15 deposited into the health systems special fund established under  
16 section 323F-21, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

17 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the health systems  
18 special fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be  
19 necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 to ensure continuous  
20 delivery of critical health care services and for the payment of  
21 the operational costs of the Hawaii health systems corporation.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii health  
2 systems corporation east Hawaii regional health care system (HTH  
3 212) for the purposes of this part.

4 **PART II**

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



1 to provide necessary health care services to residents and  
2 visitors in this health care professional shortage area.

3 The purpose of this part is to provide emergency funding  
4 for the establishment of the Big Island rural interdisciplinary  
5 program in the east Hawaii region.

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

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

14 **PART III**

15 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.  
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# H.B. NO.

**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. Effective July 1, 2050. (SD1)

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

