
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REMOTE DISPENSING PHARMACIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many individuals
2 living in underserved or remote areas need improved access to
3 medications and pharmacy services. Access to medications and
4 pharmacy services is also critical for individuals who are
5 privately insured and who reside on islands where there are no
6 pharmacies. Without access to an on-island pharmacy,
7 individuals face tremendous barriers to obtaining basic, much-
8 needed medications.

9 The purpose of this Act is to permit residents on islands
10 where there are no pharmacies to have access to a remote
11 dispensing pharmacy for the purpose of obtaining medications
12 regardless of the type of medical insurance they may have.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 461, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
15 and to read as follows:

16 "§461- Remote dispensing pharmacy; islands without a
17 pharmacy. (a) Notwithstanding section 461-10.5, a remote



1 dispensing pharmacy may be established on an island without a
2 pharmacy and may:
3 (1) Provide medications to patients with health insurance
4 coverage; and
5 (2) Dispense controlled substances.
6 (b) A remote dispensing pharmacy established under
7 subsection (a) may continue to operate in the same location if a
8 pharmacy is subsequently established on the same island as the
9 remote dispensing pharmacy; provided that upon the establishment
10 of a pharmacy on the same island where a remote dispensing
11 pharmacy is located, no remote dispensing pharmacy on that
12 island shall be authorized to dispense controlled substances."

13 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



Report Title:

Remote Dispensing Pharmacy; Better Access to Medications

Description:

Allows remote dispensing pharmacies to operate on islands without a pharmacy, provide medications to patients with health insurance, and dispense controlled substances under certain conditions. (HB655 HD1)

