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# 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 Hawaii has a forty  
2 per cent higher prevalence rate of patients diagnosed with end-  
3 stage renal disease than the rest of the nation. The National  
4 Kidney Foundation of Hawaii estimates that six hundred twenty  
5 patients are newly diagnosed with end-stage renal disease every  
6 year in Hawaii. Patients suffering from end-stage renal disease  
7 are most often put on dialysis treatment, a medical treatment  
8 that filters waste from the patients' blood when the kidneys are  
9 no longer able to do so. The treatment takes hours and usually  
10 requires three treatments a week.

11           As of December 2008, the State has twenty-two federally  
12 certified dialysis centers, not including those within  
13 hospitals, and many are operating at close to full capacity.  
14 Only one of the off-hospital dialysis centers has a backup  
15 emergency generator, and yet, even that system is not prepared  
16 to run its water treatment system with low water pressure.  
17 Electricity and water are crucial to dialysis treatment. As a



1 result of the December 2008 power outages in the state, many  
2 dialysis patients were forced to miss their regular treatment  
3 appointments, which put them at serious risk for blood  
4 poisoning.

5 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
6 health to review the emergency plans of all dialysis centers in  
7 the state and to post a list on the department's website of all  
8 dialysis centers in Hawaii that have backup emergency generators  
9 with the capacity to sustain dialysis treatments and maintain  
10 their water treatment system in the event of a power outage.

11 SECTION 2. The department of health shall review emergency  
12 plans and develop guidelines for all dialysis centers in the  
13 state to ensure the safety of dialysis patients in the event of  
14 a public emergency. The department shall post on its website a  
15 list of all dialysis centers in Hawaii that have backup  
16 emergency generators with the capacity to sustain dialysis  
17 treatments and maintain their water treatment system in the  
18 event of a power outage.

19 SECTION 3. The department of health shall submit a report  
20 to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
21 convening of the regular session of 2010, identifying each  
22 dialysis center and its emergency plan operating in the state.



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



S.B. NO. 1178  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1

**Report Title:**

Dialysis Centers; Backup Generators

**Description:**

Requires the department of health to review emergency plans and develop guidelines of all dialysis centers in the State to ensure the safety of dialysis patients in the event of a public emergency; requires the department to post on its website a list of all dialysis centers in Hawaii that have backup emergency generators with the capacity to sustain dialysis treatments and maintain their water treatment system. Effective July 1, 2020.  
(SB1178 HD1)

