

JAN 27 2010

S.B. NO. 2934

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEDICAID.

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

1 SECTION 1. The United States government has entered into
2 agreements with the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic
3 of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the
4 Compact of Free Association (COFA). These agreements enable
5 citizens of these nations to freely enter the United States, and
6 many have chosen to immigrate to Hawaii. Those low-income COFA
7 migrants who qualify for medicaid have been covered by QUEST,
8 which provides comprehensive health care coverage.

9 The department of human services intends to create basic
10 health Hawaii, a health plan with limited coverage, and to move
11 COFA migrants to this new health plan. A community concern has
12 been raised because the limited benefits provided by basic
13 health Hawaii would likely not provide the medical care needed
14 by more than an estimated one hundred COFA migrants who require
15 hemodialysis or chemotherapy.

16 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to keep
17 COFA migrants in the comprehensive QUEST program.



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1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2010-2011 for
4 comprehensive QUEST coverage for Compact of Free Association
5 migrants who qualify for medicaid.

6 SECTION 3. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
7 department of human services for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2010.

9

INTRODUCED BY: *Shannon Chun Akahane*



Report Title:

QUEST; COFA Nations; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates general funds to pay for QUEST coverage for citizens of compact of free association nations.

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