
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INSURANCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 431, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to article 10A to be
3 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

4 "§431:10A- Group health care coverage; part-time
5 employees. An insurer that provides health care coverage in the
6 State to the regular employees of any group or association shall
7 offer the same coverage to part-time employees of that group or
8 association; provided that the group or association shall not be
9 required by this section to pay any part of the premium for the
10 coverage for the part-time employees.

11 For the purposes of this section:

12 "Group or association" shall not include any state or
13 political subdivision of any state, or instrumentality thereof.

14 "Health care" includes hospitalization, surgery, medical or
15 nursing care, drugs, or restorative appliances.

16 "Part-time employee" means a person employed in the
17 employment of a single employer for at least fifteen, but less
18 than twenty, hours per week.

1 "Regular employee" means a person employed in the
2 employment of a single employer for at least twenty hours per
3 week."

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 432, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by adding a new section to article 1 to be appropriately
6 designated and to read as follows:

7 "§432:1- Group health care coverage; part-time
8 employees. A mutual benefit society in the State whose hospital
9 and medical service corporation contract provides health care
10 coverage for the regular employees of any group or association
11 shall offer the same coverage to part-time employees of that
12 group or association; provided that the group or association
13 shall not be required by this section to pay any part of the
14 premium for the coverage for the part-time employees.

15 For the purposes of this section:

16 "Group or association" shall not include any state or
17 political subdivision of any state, or instrumentality thereof.

18 "Health care" includes hospitalization, surgery, medical or
19 nursing care, drugs, or restorative appliances.

20 "Part-time employee" means a person employed in the
21 employment of a single employer for at least fifteen, but less
22 than twenty, hours per week.

1 "Regular employee" means a person employed in the
2 employment of a single employer for at least twenty hours per
3 week."

4 SECTION 3. Chapter 432D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
6 and to read as follows:

7 "§432D- Group health care coverage; part-time employees.

8 A health maintenance organization that issues a policy,
9 contract, plan, or agreement in the State that provides health
10 care coverage for the regular employees of any group or
11 association shall offer the same coverage to part-time employees
12 of that group or association; provided that the group or
13 association shall not be required by this section to pay any
14 part of the premium for the coverage for the part-time
15 employees.

16 For the purposes of this section:

17 "Group or association" shall not include any state or
18 political subdivision of any state, or instrumentality thereof.

19 "Health care" includes hospitalization, surgery, medical or
20 nursing care, drugs, or restorative appliances.

1 "Part-time employee" means a person employed in the
2 employment of a single employer for at least fifteen, but less
3 than twenty, hours per week.

4 "Regular employee" means a person employed in the
5 employment of a single employer for at least twenty hours per
6 week."

7 SECTION 4. (a) The insurance commissioner shall prepare a
8 report of the costs and benefits of this Act. The report shall
9 be prepared with the cooperation and assistance of the
10 disability compensation division of the department of labor and
11 industrial relations. The report shall include:

- 12 (1) An evaluation of the success of this Act in providing
13 part-time employees with access to health care
14 coverage;
- 15 (2) An evaluation of the costs to employees, employers,
16 and insurers of providing that coverage;
- 17 (3) Any recommendations concerning this Act; and
- 18 (4) Any other information necessary for a reasonable
19 assessment of the costs and benefits of this Act to be
20 made, and to allow health care coverage to be made
21 available to part-time employees at the lowest
22 possible cost.

1 (b) Each insurer subject to this Act shall submit, at the
2 time and in the form prescribed by the insurance commissioner,
3 the information deemed necessary by the insurance commissioner
4 to complete the report required by this section. In obtaining
5 this information, the insurance commissioner shall seek to
6 minimize an insurer's cost of compliance.

7 (c) The insurance commissioner shall report findings,
8 recommendations, and any proposed legislation to the legislature
9 not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
10 session of 2011.

11 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050,
13 and shall be repealed on July 1, 2011.

Report Title:

Group Health Insurers; Small Business

Description:

Requires insurers that offer health care coverage to the regular employees of any group or association to offer the same coverage to part-time employees working at least 15 hours per week.

Requires the insurance commissioner to report to the legislature on cost-benefit. (SD1)