
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Patient
2 Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law No. 111-148) and
3 the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public
4 Law No. 111-152) will result in significant consequences to
5 patients and providers of behavioral health services programs.
6 The legislature also finds that Hawaii's laws, programs, and
7 services must be amended to comply.

8 The legislature finds that the federal Substance Abuse and
9 Mental Health Services Administration strongly urges states to
10 proactively develop policies that will comply with the new
11 federal health care laws. In order to receive funding
12 assistance, Hawaii must engage in active reform.

13 The purpose of this Act is to establish a two year
14 behavioral health services task force to provide guidance and
15 information to the legislature so it can properly plan and
16 implement health care reform specific to behavioral health.



1 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the behavioral health
2 services task force within the department of health for
3 administrative purposes.

4 (b) The behavioral health services task force shall
5 consist of the following members:

6 (1) Two members appointed by the governor from a list of
7 physicians submitted by the senate president and the
8 speaker of the house of representatives;

9 (2) Two members of the senate, to be appointed by the
10 president of the senate;

11 (3) Two members of the house of representatives, to be
12 appointed by the speaker of the house of
13 representatives;

14 (4) The attorney general or the attorney general's
15 designee;

16 (5) The director of health or the director's designee;

17 (6) The chief of the alcohol and drug abuse division of
18 the department of health or the chief's designee;

19 (7) The chief of the adult mental health division of the
20 department of health or the chief's designee;

21 (8) The insurance commissioner, or the commissioner's
22 designee;



1 (9) Three representatives from local health insurance
2 providers;

3 (10) One member from the Hawaii Medical Association; and

4 (11) One member from the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition.

5 (c) The task force shall:

6 (1) Plan and implement health care reform that is specific
7 to behavioral health service programs;

8 (2) Examine state policies and procedures and define a
9 direction more favorable to the use of medicaid
10 funding;

11 (3) Examine state insurance laws and determine a way to
12 integrate specialized treatment programs and primary
13 care systems; and

14 (4) Organize and participate in an implementation team to
15 carry out the goals of the task force, using
16 recommendations from the federal Substance Abuse and
17 Mental Health Services Administration.

18 (d) The members of the task force shall select the
19 chairperson of the task force from among themselves. Members of
20 the task force shall serve without compensation, but shall be
21 reimbursed for necessary expenses, including travel expenses,
22 incurred in the performance of their official duties.



1 (e) The task force shall submit a report of its findings
2 and recommendations to the legislature no later than twenty days
3 prior to the convening of the 2013 regular session.

4 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
5 provided that this Act shall be repealed on June 30, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Karen Awana
[Signature]
[Signature]
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JAN 26 2011



H.B. NO. 1606

Report Title:

Behavioral Health Services; Health Care Reform; Task Force

Description:

Creates a two year behavioral health services task force to plan and implement health care reform specific to behavioral health. Task force to be repealed on June 30, 2013.

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

