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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 purpose of this Act is to improve access to  
2 the full range of health care services to medicaid and QUEST  
3 members accessing services through a mobile medical van by  
4 ensuring that medicaid and QUEST health plans have the  
5 flexibility to provide appropriate health services via  
6 technological means such as telehealth. This flexibility is  
7 especially important because a new mobile medical van will begin  
8 providing services to the more remote areas on the island of  
9 Hawaii. Allowing QUEST and medicaid members to access services  
10 through the mobile medical van will assist in improving the  
11 health of those with chronic conditions as well as improving the  
12 overall health of area residents.

13           SECTION 2. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
15 and to read as follows:

16           "§346-       Telehealth services; medicaid and QUEST. (a)

17 The department shall allow the use of a mobile health van  
18 equipped with telehealth services, including:



1        (1) Unrestricted access to an individual's primary care  
2        physician;

3        (2) Access to specialist care as referred by an  
4        individual's primary care physician and receiving  
5        health plan authorization as necessary; and

6        (3) Providing documentation to a primary care physician  
7        when documentation is related to visits to another  
8        physician.

9        This section does not require the department to cover  
10       patient self-referrals to providers or any services not covered  
11       by the individual's health plan benefit package. This section  
12       shall apply only to a mobile medical van program operating in a  
13       county with a population of less than two hundred fifty  
14       thousand.

15       (b) An eligible mobile health van program shall be  
16       operated by a qualified provider.

17       (c) For the purposes of this section, "telehealth" means  
18       the use of a telecommunications service, as defined in section  
19       269-1, including real-time video conferencing-based  
20       communication, secure interactive and non-interactive web-based  
21       communication, and secure asynchronous information exchange, to  
22       transmit patient medical information, including diagnostic-



1 quality digital images and laboratory results for medical  
 2 interpretation and diagnosis, for the purpose of delivering  
 3 enhanced health care services and information to parties  
 4 separated by distance. A standard telephone contact, facsimile  
 5 transmission, or an electronic message, in combination or by  
 6 itself, does not constitute a telehealth service for the  
 7 purposes of this section."

8 SECTION 3. The department of human services shall submit a  
 9 report on the implementation of the provisions of section 2 of  
 10 this Act, including its finding and recommendations, to the  
 11 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
 12 the regular sessions of 2012 and 2013. The report shall include  
 13 but not be limited to the following information:

- 14 (1) Online care use, including information on:
- 15 (A) Day and time of day;
  - 16 (B) Provider types consulted;
  - 17 (C) Whether a patient had an established relationship  
 18 with a provider, including whether the provider  
 19 was the patient's primary care provider;
  - 20 (D) Summary of provider diagnoses;
  - 21 (E) All services ordered by the provider in response  
 22 to the encounter (e.g., number of prescriptions



- 1                   and specific medications prescribed, diagnostic  
2                   testing ordered, and referrals);
- 3           (F) Mode of online care conversation (e.g. web,  
4           including video conferencing and web chat, or IVR  
5           phone); and
- 6           (G) Demographic of the patient who used the online  
7           care;
- 8           and
- 9           (2) Patient and provider satisfaction of the online care  
10           system and patient satisfaction rating of the  
11           provider.

12           SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

13           SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050;  
14           provided that this Act shall be repealed on June 30, 2013.



**Report Title:**

QUEST and Medicaid Telehealth Services

**Description:**

Provides for telehealth services coverage for Medicaid and QUEST patients through an eligible mobile health van operated by a qualified provider. Requires the Department of Human Services to report to the Legislature. Repealed June 30, 2013. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB285 HD2)

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

