

H.B. 1

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PERINATAL CARE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature established a perinatal clinic,  
2 Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii, as a three-year pilot  
3 project in 2006 in response to the high rate of methamphetamine  
4 use by pregnant women. The clinic provides comprehensive  
5 prenatal, delivery, and postpartum care and social services to  
6 women who have a history of substance use. Since it was  
7 established, the clinic has been successful in engaging this  
8 difficult-to-reach population of women. It supports them in  
9 decreasing their substance use and helps them deliver healthy  
10 infants that they are capable of parenting. Despite the high  
11 average cost of medical care for a single very low weight infant  
12 in its first year of life -- over \$200,000 -- the clinic is cost-  
13 effective. However, this highly successful clinic is not  
14 sustainable without funding from the State.

15           Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii provides its  
16 patients with prenatal care that addresses their addictions in a  
17 small, dedicated, nonjudgmental setting. Patients are also  
18 provided with social service support, parenting education, and



1 transportation. Since its creation, Perinatal Addiction  
2 Treatment of Hawaii has cared for over one hundred eighty women,  
3 and it is expected to provide services to over sixty women with  
4 addictions in 2011.

5 The legislature initially appropriated \$400,000 for this  
6 pilot project. Because of funding delays, only half of the funds  
7 were expended. Act 147, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, authorized  
8 appropriation of the remaining \$200,000 for fiscal year 2007-  
9 2008. In March 2009, the Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii  
10 clinic was awarded a grant from the department of health to  
11 provide perinatal support services and triage, but due to budget  
12 restrictions, the grant was not funded. The clinic has continued  
13 to provide services through individual donations and small  
14 grants made to its tax-exempt charitable social service agency.

15 While Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii is not a  
16 substance abuse treatment program, its unique integration of  
17 prenatal, clinical, and social services results in a cessation of  
18 substance use in most women. It also assists some women to  
19 recognize that they require residential substance abuse  
20 treatment and facilitates their admission into an appropriate  
21 program.



1           Since its creation, the Perinatal Addiction Treatment of  
2 Hawaii pilot project has achieved the following results:

3           (1) The effects of substance use and the associated risk  
4 factors (i.e., poverty, homelessness, interpersonal  
5 violence, tobacco and alcohol use, and co-occurring  
6 medical and behavioral health illness) on birth  
7 outcomes were largely ameliorated by the prenatal care  
8 at the Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii clinic;

9           (2) Patients in the program were overwhelmingly likely to  
10 stop using drugs, deliver healthy infants, maintain  
11 custody of their infants, choose a long-term birth  
12 control method, and choose to work on or develop skills  
13 six months after delivery;

14           (3) While infants born to women who received services at  
15 Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii were four to  
16 five times more likely to suffer preterm birth and low  
17 birth weight, the birth outcomes at Perinatal Addiction  
18 Treatment of Hawaii were consistent with state and  
19 national averages for all births;

20           (4) Eighty per cent of women treated at Perinatal  
21 Addiction Treatment of Hawaii abstained from drug  
22 usage and over ninety per cent significantly decreased



- 1 substance use within eight weeks of using Perinatal  
2 Addiction Treatment of Hawaii services;
- 3 (5) Ninety-four per cent of women treated were tested to  
4 be substance-free at the time of birth;
- 5 (6) Of the women who had positive drug tests at the time  
6 of birth, over half chose to enter a residential  
7 substance abuse treatment program, often noting that  
8 their experience at Perinatal Addiction Treatment of  
9 Hawaii contributed to their readiness to accept  
10 treatment;
- 11 (7) Ninety-six per cent of women treated maintained  
12 custody of their infants eight weeks after delivery  
13 (fifty-seven per cent had previously lost custody of  
14 at least one child); and
- 15 (8) The nine-month repeat pregnancy rate for women who  
16 maintained custody of their infants was lower than  
17 state and national averages while fifty per cent of  
18 the women who lost custody of their infants were  
19 pregnant again within nine months of having given  
20 birth.

21 Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii is a comprehensive  
22 perinatal addiction clinic that integrates prenatal and



1 postpartum obstetric clinical services, addiction medicine  
2 services, and social services. The state medicaid program is  
3 billed for allowable clinical services. Although funding sources  
4 are available for medical services, essential social services  
5 that are provided by the clinic remain unfunded. State moneys  
6 are needed to fund these services.

7 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to continue  
8 the Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii pilot program.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much  
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and the  
12 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
13 2012-2013 for the Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii clinic  
14 for case management and other social services that it provides.

15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
16 of health for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 3. The moneys appropriated by this Act shall be  
18 used for:

19 (1) Case management for pregnant and recently delivered  
20 (up to six months) women struggling with substance  
21 abuse, including alcohol, to be provided by a master's



- 1 degree level social worker or nurse experienced in the  
2 area of substance abuse treatment;
- 3 (2) Addiction medicine services that may not be medicaid  
4 funded;
- 5 (3) Therapeutic childcare during clinic appointments and  
6 classes or activity groups;
- 7 (4) Transportation assistance to and from clinic  
8 appointments and classes or activity groups;
- 9 (5) Group classes and activities to support women in  
10 achieving their goals of giving birth to healthy  
11 infants that they are capable of parenting; and
- 12 (6) Administrative support to provide a dedicated space,  
13 integration of services, and support of education and  
14 research in the area of effective treatment of  
15 perinatal addiction.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Perinatal Care; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for the continued operation of the Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii program and clinic. Effective July 1, 2050. (HB129 HD1)

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

