
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that organ
2 transplantation is a life saving therapy for many critically ill
3 patients with end-stage diseases. More than one hundred ten
4 thousand patients are on the national organ transplant waiting
5 list; four hundred seven of those patients are Hawaii residents.
6 The legislature further finds that, statewide, there is only one
7 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certified organ
8 transplant facility for liver and kidney transplants, where
9 dozens of transplantations are performed each year. In
10 addition, patients who have received an organ transplant
11 continue to receive monitoring and follow-up care from medical
12 staff, physicians, and surgeons after the patient's operation.
13 Individuals diagnosed with a potentially preventable chronic
14 disease represent a sizable percentage of those waiting for an
15 organ. Unhealthy lifestyle behaviors such as tobacco use, poor
16 diet, and lack of physical activity may lead to chronic illness
17 of the kidney and liver which, if left unmanaged, could
18 ultimately impair organ function and lead to organ failure and



1 the need for transplantation. Furthermore, genetic
2 predisposition and environmental influences leading to unhealthy
3 behaviors can interact to accelerate and exacerbate the process.
4 Since approximately ninety per cent of the people on the waiting
5 list for an organ transplant in Hawaii have kidney failure, and
6 since it is clear that it is possible to slow or even reverse
7 the progression of chronic kidney disease, the focus on
8 prevention as part of the solution must be included.

9 The legislature further finds that funding is crucial to
10 maintain a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certified
11 kidney and liver transplant facility in Hawaii, as well as to
12 maintain a federally-recognized stage 3 chronic kidney disease
13 program focused on prevention for disparate populations in
14 Hawaii. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
15 certified organ transplant program provides an important public
16 resource to the State and to many organ transplant patients and
17 recipients in Hawaii. Without an operational organ transplant
18 center, patients with end-stage diseases would be forced to
19 register on transplant waiting lists for mainland transplant
20 centers, many of which have a longer waiting time to receive a
21 donor organ than in Hawaii. The increased waiting time for an
22 organ may mean that the sickest of those patients may not



1 survive long enough for a donor organ to become available. In
2 addition to increased waiting time, many waitlisted patients in
3 Hawaii would have the additional burden of relocating to other
4 areas of the country, away from friends and family, while
5 awaiting a donor organ and during their recovery.

6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys to sustain
7 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certified organ
8 transplant operations in Hawaii and maintain a federally-
9 recognized chronic kidney disease management program.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,000,000 or so much
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 to support
13 ongoing services provided by a qualified provider with Centers
14 for Medicare and Medicaid Services certification to perform
15 kidney and liver transplants in Hawaii and to support a
16 federally-recognized chronic kidney disease management program.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
18 health for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.



Report Title:

Kidney; Liver; Transplants; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to be expended by the Department of Health to support ongoing services provided by a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certified kidney and liver transplant provider in Hawaii, and to support a federally-recognized chronic kidney disease management program. Effective July 1, 2011. (HB608 HD2)

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

