

JAN 26 2011

A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that emerging health
2 information technology has great potential for improving health
3 outcomes while reducing costs and empowering consumers. For
4 electronic health records to be comprehensive, they must
5 incorporate data related to all key components of health. The
6 legislature also finds that health information technology
7 provides the overall framework for the comprehensive management
8 and secure exchange of health information among providers,
9 insurers, governments, consumers, and other entities.
10 Throughout the continuum of health care, there is a need for an
11 integrated system in which general practitioners are supported
12 by various specialty areas. In such an integrated system, the
13 sharing of information between these practitioners is critical.

14 The legislature finds that the use of health information
15 technology has the potential to improve health care quality,
16 prevent medical errors, increase administrative efficiencies,
17 decrease paperwork, and improve patient health by providing
18 complete, accurate, and searchable health information at the



1 point of diagnosis and care. The legislature acknowledges that
2 the federal Health Information Technology for Economic and
3 Clinical Health Act has created a number of funding
4 opportunities to advance health information technology through
5 the use of federal matching grant programs aimed at helping
6 states design and develop health information technology systems.
7 The legislature also finds that participation in these federal
8 matching grant programs will be beneficial to both the health
9 care industry and the residents of the State of Hawaii.

10 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
11 department of health to participate in any federal matching
12 grant programs authorized by the federal Health Information
13 Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act with respect to
14 health information technology systems.

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
17 much thereof as may be necessary for the fiscal year 2011-2012
18 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for
19 fiscal year 2012-2013 to be used by the department of health for
20 participation in any federal matching grant programs authorized
21 by the federal Health Information Technology for Economic and
22 Clinical Health Act with respect to the design or development of



1 health information technology systems. To effectuate the
2 purposes of this Act, the department of health shall comply with
3 all program-specific requirements and timetables set forth by
4 the federal Health Technology for Economic and Clinical Health
5 Act and any federal agency charged with implementing the federal
6 matching grant programs.

7 SECTION 3. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the
8 department of health for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Appropriation; Health Information Technology; Federal Matching Grants

Description:

Makes an appropriation to the department of health to participate in federal matching grant programs under the federal Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act that are associated with the development of health information technologies for fiscal years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013.

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