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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 legislature finds that childhood obesity is  
2 a serious medical condition affecting the State's children and  
3 adolescents. Childhood obesity often leads to health problems  
4 that were once limited to adults such as diabetes, high blood  
5 pressure, and high cholesterol. Childhood obesity can also lead  
6 to poor self-esteem and depression. Combating childhood obesity  
7 is an intelligent step toward limiting future health-related  
8 costs as overweight children with health and possibly  
9 psychological issues who are not treated may grow into adults  
10 with chronic conditions.

11           The purpose of this Act is to establish a childhood obesity  
12 pilot program.

13           SECTION 2. There is established under the department of  
14 health for administrative purposes a two-year childhood obesity  
15 pilot program. The department shall work with Hawaii Primary  
16 Care Association to develop parameters and implementation  
17 guidelines for the childhood obesity pilot program. The



1 department of health shall provide administrative support for  
2 the program.

3 As used throughout this Act, "childhood obesity" means the  
4 condition when a person under eighteen years of age has a body  
5 mass index in the ninety-fifth percentile or above for that  
6 person's age; provided that other factors such as whether the  
7 person has a larger than average body frame or is more muscular  
8 than average shall be considered by the physician diagnosing the  
9 condition.

10 SECTION 3. (a) The department of health shall select  
11 twenty health care providers to participate in the childhood  
12 obesity pilot program. These provider participants shall  
13 include no less than one of each of the following health care  
14 providers:

- 15 (1) A solo medical practitioner;
- 16 (2) A medical practitioner who practices in a group health  
17 care setting;
- 18 (3) A pediatrician;
- 19 (4) A registered dietitian;
- 20 (5) A doctor of internal medicine;
- 21 (6) A psychiatrist;
- 22 (7) A psychologist; and



1 (8) A registered nurse.

2 (b) All individual and group hospital and medical service  
3 corporation insurers that provide coverage for an insured whose  
4 dependent child visits a provider participant of the childhood  
5 obesity pilot program shall provide coverage for the treatment  
6 of childhood obesity under and for the duration of the childhood  
7 obesity pilot program for the insured or dependents of the  
8 insured in this State.

9 (c) Each policy of accident and health or sickness  
10 insurance, other than life insurance, disability income  
11 insurance, and long-term care insurance, issued or renewed in  
12 this State, each employer group health policy, contract, plan,  
13 or agreement issued or renewed in this State, all policies  
14 providing family coverages as defined in section 431:10A-103,  
15 and all policies providing reciprocal beneficiary family  
16 coverage as defined in section 431:10A-601, shall contain a  
17 provision for coverage for the treatment of childhood obesity  
18 under and for the duration of the childhood obesity pilot  
19 program for its insureds or dependents of its insureds in this  
20 State.

21 (d) Every insurer, mutual benefit society, and fraternal  
22 benefit society shall provide notice to its insureds regarding



1 the coverage required by this section. The notice shall be in  
2 writing and prominently placed in any literature or  
3 correspondence sent to the insureds and shall be transmitted to  
4 the insureds during the 2012 calendar year when annual  
5 information is made available to the insureds, or in any other  
6 mailing to the insureds, but in no case later than December 31,  
7 2012.

8 SECTION 4. The childhood obesity pilot program provider  
9 participants shall submit a joint report detailing their  
10 analysis of the operational successes and challenges of the  
11 childhood obesity pilot program, along with any findings,  
12 recommendations, or proposed legislation to the department of  
13 health and the legislature no later than twenty days prior to  
14 the convening of the 2015 regular session.

15 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2040.



**Report Title:**

Health; Childhood Obesity Pilot Program

**Description:**

Establishes the Childhood Obesity Pilot Program and requires insurers to cover childhood obesity as a billable provider visit for services rendered by participating health care providers. Requires the Department of Health to work with Hawaii Primary Care Association to develop parameters and implementation guidelines for the program. Requires the Childhood Obesity Pilot Program provider participants to submit a report to the Department of Health and the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2015 Regular Session. Effective July 1, 2010. (SB1506 HD1)

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

