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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.

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

1           SECTION 1. QUEST expanded access is a medicaid-managed  
2 care program that replaced a fee-for-service program in 2009,  
3 and provides care to low-income individuals who are aged, blind,  
4 or disabled. These individuals typically have multiple medical  
5 conditions and require care from different health care  
6 providers. The annual budget for QUEST expanded access is  
7 \$500,000,000.

8           The goals of QUEST expanded access include a reduction in  
9 the fragmentation of care and the assurance of coordination  
10 across the health care continuum. In addition, the program is  
11 designed to be fiscally predictable, stable, and sustainable in  
12 order to assure access to high quality, cost-effective care.

13           However, despite these high ideals, enrollees, advocates,  
14 and health care providers have expressed serious concerns that  
15 QUEST expanded access is failing to meet its stated goals and  
16 that many enrollees are not receiving adequate care.

17           QUEST expanded access should be formally evaluated to  
18 determine whether these concerns are valid, and if so, to



1 correct existing problems. In this regard, social auditing is a  
2 process that evaluates programs to determine their social and  
3 economic benefits and limitations. It is a way of measuring the  
4 extent to which a program fulfills its stated values and  
5 objectives. Social auditing information is collected through  
6 various research methods, including surveys, interviews, and  
7 case studies.

8 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
9 University of Hawaii at Manoa college of social sciences public  
10 policy center to conduct a social audit of QUEST expanded  
11 access.

12 SECTION 2. (a) The University of Hawaii at Manoa college  
13 of social sciences public policy center shall conduct a social  
14 audit, including evaluations of access to patients, positive  
15 health outcomes, and other criteria, of the QUEST expanded  
16 access program.

17 (b) The social audit shall:

18 (1) Determine whether the goals of QUEST expanded access  
19 are being achieved; and

20 (2) Formulate recommendations if the social audit  
21 determines any of the goals of QUEST expanded access  
22 have not been achieved.



1 (c) The dean of the college of social sciences public  
2 policy center shall submit a report of the social audit's  
3 findings and recommendations to the legislature no later than  
4 twenty days prior to the convening of the 2012 regular session.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much  
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 for the  
8 purpose of conducting a social audit of the QUEST expanded  
9 access program.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
11 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

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

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**Report Title:**

QUEST Expanded Access; Health Care; University of Hawaii;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii at Manoa college  
of social sciences public policy center to conduct a social  
audit of the QUEST expanded access program. (SD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

