
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HOME VISITING PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. On March 23, 2010, President Barack Obama
2 signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
3 of 2010, also known as the Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148).
4 The Affordable Care Act added section 511 to title V of the
5 Social Security Act to create the Maternal, Infant, and Early
6 Childhood Home Visiting Grant program to support development and
7 implementation of evidence-based home visiting program models by
8 states and other eligible entities.

9 Home visiting is a prevention strategy used by states and
10 communities to improve the health and well-being of women,
11 children, and families at risk for adverse health and safety
12 concerns, including child abuse and neglect. Early investments
13 in home visiting programs have been shown to reduce costs
14 associated with foster care placements, hospitalizations,
15 emergency room visits, unintended pregnancies, and other more
16 costly outcomes and interventions.

17 The purpose of this Act is to establish a program within
18 the department of health for screening and home visiting



1 services for newborns' families. Establishment of Hawaii's home
2 visiting program will position the department of health to
3 participate in the federal grant program, and thereby improve
4 the health and safety of eligible families.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by adding to part XXV a new section to be appropriately
7 designated and to read as follows:

8 "§321- Hawaii home visiting program; established. (a)
9 There is established within the department of health the Hawaii
10 home visiting program, which shall be responsible for statewide
11 hospital-based screening and home visiting services to identify
12 families of newborns at risk for poor health and safety
13 outcomes, including child abuse and neglect, to promote healthy
14 child development and strengthen families.

15 (b) The hospital-based screening and home visiting program
16 shall, within the limits of available funds:

17 (1) Provide proactive, universal screening of newborns'
18 families, using one or more screening tools validated
19 for identifying levels of risk for poor health and
20 safety outcomes and child abuse and neglect as
21 designated by the department of health;



1 (2) Refer families at high risk to Hawaii home visiting
2 program providers who shall employ evidence-based
3 models of service; and

4 (3) Consider as a high priority, families at risk for poor
5 health outcomes, child abuse, or neglect."

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,000,000 or so much
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 to carry
9 out the purposes of this Act.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
11 health.

12 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Hawaii Home Visiting Program

Description:

Establishes the Hawaii Home Visiting Program, a statewide hospital-based early identification and home visiting system. Appropriates funds. (HB908 HD1)

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