
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INFANT MORTALITY PROGRAM.

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

PART I

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SECTION 1. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding to part XXV three new sections to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§321- Comprehensive infant mortality reduction program; established. (a) The department of health shall establish, administer, and maintain a statewide, comprehensive infant mortality reduction program. The department shall convene for planning purposes and provide assistance to entities and agencies, public and private, involved in the reduction of infant mortality rates.

(b) It shall be a goal of the department of health to improve statewide coordination of infant mortality planning and oversight; oversee the implementation of evidence-based practices; adopt rules and establish policies to reduce infant mortality rates; and to generally and comprehensively address social determinants of health and other demonstrated factors that contribute to infant mortality.

1 §321- Hawaii infant mortality reduction advisory board,
2 established. (a) There is established within the department of
3 health for administrative purposes the Hawaii infant mortality
4 reduction advisory board that shall be comprised of fifteen
5 members appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent
6 of the Senate, pursuant to section 26-34. Members shall serve
7 staggered terms of two years each so that the terms of no more
8 than five members expire each year.

9 (b) The membership of the board shall reflect geographic
10 diversity and the diverse interests of stakeholders including
11 consumers, employers, insurers, and healthcare providers. The
12 director of health and the director of human services shall be
13 ex-officio, voting members of the board.

- 14 (c) The advisory board shall be responsible for:
- 15 (1) Approving the statewide biannual strategic plan to
16 reduce infant mortality;
 - 17 (2) Advising the department's infant mortality reduction
18 program on how best to meet the goals and objectives
19 of the infant mortality strategic plan;
 - 20 (3) Providing recommendations to the infant mortality
21 program on improving the quality, availability, and

1 coordination of the services of the infant mortality
2 program; and

3 (4) Promoting collaboration among public agencies and
4 private stakeholders to reduce infant mortality in the
5 State.

6 (d) Members shall serve without compensation.

7 **§321- Infant mortality reduction strategic plan; social**
8 **determinants of health focus.** (a) The department shall develop
9 and publish a statewide, comprehensive infant mortality
10 reduction strategic plan to reduce infant mortality in Hawaii.
11 The department shall publish the initial strategic plan no later
12 than January 1, 2015. The department shall review, revise, and
13 publish an updated infant mortality strategic plan three years
14 following the date of the initial strategic plan, and every
15 three years thereafter.

16 (b) The plan shall include strategies to address social
17 determinants of health as they relate to infant mortality.

18 (c) The public shall have the opportunity to provide input
19 pursuant to chapter 91.

20 (d) The department shall present the strategic plan to the
21 Hawaii infant mortality reduction advisory board for its
22 approval. Upon approval the strategic plan shall guide all



1 policy development related to the reduction of infant mortality
2 in Hawaii."

3 PART II

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by adding to part XXVII two new sections to be
6 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

7 "§321- Patient education; provider responsibilities.

8 (a) Each facility shall distribute at least annually to all
9 staff and providers with admitting privileges at that facility a
10 copy of its written policies, adopted pursuant to section 321-
11 , prohibiting non-medically indicated induction of newborn
12 deliveries prior to thirty-seven weeks of gestation.

13 (b) The department shall produce and distribute factual
14 and scientific educational information addressing infant
15 mortality, including pre-term birth, to all facilities.

16 (c) Each facility shall provide to the expectant mother
17 upon admission factual and scientific educational material,
18 including material produced and distributed by the department,
19 regarding infant mortality and pre-term birth unless deemed by
20 the attending physician to be unfeasible on account of the
21 expectant mother's medical condition or other circumstances.



1 Each facility shall document the expectant mother's receipt and
2 acknowledgement of the educational material for each admission.

3 §321- Reporting requirements; health care providers.

4 (a) Beginning January 1, 2014, each licensed birthing facility
5 in the State shall report to the department, in a manner and at
6 intervals determined by the department by rules adopted pursuant
7 to chapter 91, information concerning pre-term birth.

8 (b) The reports shall contain at a minimum for each
9 reporting period:

10 (1) The number of live births at the birthing facility;

11 (2) The number of incidents of pre-term birth at the
12 birthing facility;

13 (3) The medical and other causes, that may have caused a
14 pre-term birth;

15 (4) Individual, de-identified patient demographic data;

16 (5) The number of patients admitted to the facility who
17 received factual and scientific educational material
18 regarding infant mortality and pre-term birth pursuant
19 to section 321- ; and

20 (6) Other information that the department specifies in
21 rules pursuant to chapter 91."



PART III

SECTION 3. Section 321-323 is amended by adding two new definitions to be appropriately inserted and to read as follows:

"Infant mortality" means the risk of a baby dying between birth and one year of age.

"Social determinants of health" means the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, including the health system; and are attributable in large part to health inequities and avoidable differences in health status among demographic groups."

PART IV

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$190,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 to:

- (1) Fund epidemiological and planning activities related to infant mortality;
- (2) Collect and analyze Hawaii-specific infant mortality data; and
- (3) Identify social determinants of health as they relate to infant mortality.

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



1 PART V

2 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 6. This Act, upon its approval, shall take effect

4 on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Comprehensive Infant Mortality Reduction Program

Description:

Creates the Comprehensive Infant Mortality Reduction Program. Clarifies the role of the Department of Health in establishing, administering, and maintaining a statewide, comprehensive infant mortality reduction program. Appropriates funds. Upon its approval, takes effect July 1, 2050. (HB909 HD1)

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