
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH PLANNING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the World Health
2 Organization, the United States Department of Health and Human
3 Services's Healthy People 2020 Initiative, and the Centers for
4 Disease Control and Prevention all recognize social determinants
5 of health as the single most important factor in individual and
6 population health outcomes, more so than genetic disposition or
7 medical care. The legislature further finds that the Hawaii
8 State Planning Act does not explicitly recognize social
9 determinants of health as an important component of health
10 planning.

11 The legislature also notes that the October 2013 report,
12 "Assessment and Priorities for Health & Well-Being in Native
13 Hawaiians & Other Pacific Peoples," by the John A. Burns school
14 of medicine, identifies a number of social and other
15 determinants of health for Native Hawaiians, other Pacific
16 Islanders, and Filipinos, who collectively continue to have
17 disparate health outcomes compared to the rest of the state
18 population. The legislature finds that in recognition of the



1 special responsibilities and legal obligations to the indigenous
2 people of Hawaii, the federal government codified a commitment
3 to addressing the health status of Native Hawaiians and
4 providing Native Hawaiian health care programs with necessary
5 resources in title 42 United States Code section 11702. The
6 legislature further finds that the State has not made a similar
7 commitment.

8 The legislature finds that codifying a commitment to
9 reducing health disparities for Native Hawaiian and other groups
10 through a social determinants of health approach may directly
11 and indirectly improve health outcomes and the quality of life
12 for all residents of the State.

13 The purpose of this Act is to update the Hawaii State
14 Planning Act's objectives for health to include a dual
15 commitment to addressing Native Hawaiian health and eliminating
16 health disparities.

17 SECTION 2. Section 226-20, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 **"§226-20 Objectives and policies for socio-cultural**
20 **advancement--health.** (a) Planning for the State's socio-
21 cultural advancement with regard to health shall be directed
22 towards achievement of the following objectives:



- 1 (1) Fulfillment of basic individual health needs of the
2 general public.
- 3 (2) Maintenance of sanitary and environmentally healthful
4 conditions in Hawaii's communities.
- 5 (3) Elimination of health disparities by identifying and
6 addressing social determinants of health.
- 7 (b) To achieve the health objectives, it shall be the
8 policy of this State to:
 - 9 (1) Provide adequate and accessible services and
10 facilities for prevention and treatment of physical
11 and mental health problems, including substance abuse.
 - 12 (2) Encourage improved cooperation among public and
13 private sectors in the provision of health care to
14 accommodate the total health needs of individuals
15 throughout the State.
 - 16 (3) Encourage public and private efforts to develop and
17 promote statewide and local strategies to reduce
18 health care and related insurance costs.
 - 19 (4) Foster an awareness of the need for personal health
20 maintenance and preventive health care through
21 education and other measures.



1 (5) Provide programs, services, and activities that ensure
2 environmentally healthful and sanitary conditions.

3 (6) Improve the State's capabilities in preventing
4 contamination by pesticides and other potentially
5 hazardous substances through increased coordination,
6 education, monitoring, and enforcement.

7 (7) Prioritize programs, services, interventions, and
8 activities that address identified social determinants
9 of health to improve Native Hawaiian health and well-
10 being consistent with the United States Congress's
11 declaration of policy as codified in title 42 United
12 States Code section 11702, and to reduce health
13 disparities of disproportionately affected
14 demographics, including Native Hawaiians, other
15 Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos. The prioritization
16 of affected demographic groups other than Native
17 Hawaiians may be reviewed every ten years and revised
18 based on the best available epidemiological and public
19 health data."

20 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

OHA Package; State Planning Act; Health Disparities

Description:

Adds to the Hawaii State Planning Act's objectives and policies for health, the identification of social determinants of health and prioritization of programs, services, interventions, and activities that address identified social determinants of health to improve Native Hawaiian health in accordance with federal law and reduce health disparities of disproportionately affected demographics. (SD1)

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