H.B. NO. 309

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CRITICAL ACCESS AND RURAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS.

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

1   SECTION 1. The legislature finds that critical access and

2 rural health care providers are essential to the State's health

3 care system. These providers furnish health care services that

4 include, but are not limited to, emergency medical treatments

5 and mental health services. These providers face financial

6 difficulty due to constrained reimbursements, high cost of

7 providing care in remote areas, and workforce shortages. In

8 recognition of this hardship, the legislature further finds that

9 critical access and rural health care providers need additional

10 funding to maintain their services. Increasing access to

11 preventive and timely health care services in rural areas will

12 significantly reduce costs and, thus, is an investment in our

13 future.

14   The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to critical

15 access and rural health care providers.

16   SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the emergency

17 medical services special fund, established pursuant to section

18 321-234, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the sum of $_____ or so

HB HMIA 2013-1-04.doc

H.B. NO. 309

1   much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 to

2   subsidize critical access and rural health care providers.

3   The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of

4   health for the purposes of this Act.

5   SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

6

INTRODUCED BY: _____

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JAN 1 8 2013

Report Title:
Critical Access and Rural Health Care Providers; Appropriation

Description:
Appropriates funds to subsidize critical access and rural health care providers.

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