

JAN 15 2014

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of  
2 Native Hawaiian health, as part of the University of Hawaii's  
3 John A. Burns school of medicine, recently completed a two year  
4 study entitled "Assessment and Priorities for Health and Well-  
5 Being in Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Peoples." These  
6 findings were presented to a joint legislative committee on  
7 September 23, 2013, along with recommendations and priorities to  
8 improve the health and well-being of the State's indigenous and  
9 Pacific islander populations.

10           The legislature further finds that obesity and chronic  
11 diseases, such as diabetes and heart disease, disproportionality  
12 affect Native Hawaiians. In order to address the health of  
13 indigenous people, Hawaii's policies, programs, and services  
14 must focus on economic and social conditions that influence  
15 group differences in health status.

16           The study also detailed successful programs that have led  
17 to reduced risk factors for diabetes, heart disease, and stroke.  
18 These programs include weight and blood pressure management.



1           The purpose of this Act is to address the findings and  
2 recommendations of the department of Native Hawaiian health's  
3 study by creating a task force to formulate policies and  
4 procedures to eliminate the disproportionate impact of the  
5 social determinants of health and chronic disease on all  
6 individuals, with particular focus on Native Hawaiians and other  
7 Pacific peoples.

8           SECTION 2. (a) There is established a task force to be  
9 administratively attached to the University of Hawaii's John A.  
10 Burns school of medicine to:

- 11           (1) Create data sharing policies between state agencies to  
12 improve access for Native Hawaiian and other Pacific  
13 peoples;
- 14           (2) Propose cost-effective improvements to the  
15 environments where Native Hawaiians and other Pacific  
16 peoples live, learn, work, and play;
- 17           (3) Propose legislation to address social determinants of  
18 health in Hawaii;
- 19           (4) Raise awareness and propose programs to advance health  
20 equity;
- 21           (5) Propose programs and legislative action that will  
22 address barriers to access health care;



1 (6) Guide the use of existing collaborations, systems, and  
2 partnerships to leverage resources and maximize  
3 outcomes;

4 (7) Propose activities that will support community  
5 organizations promoting their own health; and

6 (8) Propose initiatives that will increase preventive  
7 services available in Native Hawaiian communities.

8 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

9 (1) The chair of the department of Native Hawaiian health  
10 of the John A. Burns school of medicine, or the  
11 chair's designee;

12 (2) The director of health, or the director's designee;  
13 and

14 (3) The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian  
15 affairs, or the chief executive officer's designee.

16 In addition, the chair of the department of Native Hawaiian  
17 health of the John A. Burns school of medicine shall appoint up  
18 to twenty additional task force members with demonstrated  
19 interest in and backgrounds beneficial to assisting the  
20 functions of the task force, including members with extensive  
21 knowledge, expertise, or experience in areas such as Native



1 Hawaiian health or health care, and Native Hawaiian health care  
2 consumers.

3 (c) The members of the task force shall serve without  
4 compensation, but shall be reimbursed for expenses necessary in  
5 the performance of their duties.

6 (d) The task force shall submit to the legislature a final  
7 report of its activities, findings, and recommendations no later  
8 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session  
9 of 2016.

10 (e) The task force shall cease to exist on August 1, 2016.

11 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much  
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the  
14 task force on Native Hawaiian health to formulate policies and  
15 procedures to eliminate the disproportionate impact of the  
16 social determinants of health and chronic disease on Native  
17 Hawaiians.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
19 Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine for the purposes of this  
20 Act.

21



# S.B. NO. 2068

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval,  
2 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

3

INTRODUCED BY: John Diller MD

Paula Pugh



# S.B. NO. 2068

**Report Title:**

Native Hawaiian Health; John A. Burns School of Medicine; Task Force; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a task force to improve the health of Native Hawaiians and other Pacific peoples by proposing cost-effective improvements and legislation to address social determinants of health in Hawaii. Makes an appropriation of \$100,000 to support the activities of the task force.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

