

JAN 22 2016

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Beginning no later than December 1, 2017, the
2 department of health shall implement a nurse health advice line
3 pilot program in partnership with private organizations. The
4 objective of the pilot program shall be to coordinate a network
5 of registered nurses that a Hawaii resident may access twenty-
6 four hours a day via telephone or web access to obtain
7 healthcare advice and recommendations on whether to seek medical
8 attention. The department may enter into contracts with
9 hospitals, insurance companies, health networks, or other
10 entities to provide twenty-four hour access to the nurse advice
11 network. The purpose of this Act is to establish a nurse health
12 advice line pilot program that provides professional guidance
13 from registered nurses and increases access to primary care for
14 Hawaii residents while reducing healthcare costs through
15 decreased emergency room and urgent care visits and hospital
16 recidivism rates.



1 SECTION 2. The department of health shall submit an annual
2 report on the pilot program, including:

- 3 (1) The organizations partnered with the program;
- 4 (2) The number of registered nurses employed by the
5 program;
- 6 (3) The number of calls received;
- 7 (4) The number of emergency room and urgent care visits
8 averted by the program;
- 9 (5) Quality standards and rules adopted; and
- 10 (6) Data collected and program evaluations,
11 along with any recommendations and proposed legislation, to the
12 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
13 the regular sessions of 2018 and 2019.

14 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for
17 the nurse health advice line pilot program.

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

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S.B. NO. 2180

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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S.B. NO. 2180

Report Title:

Department of Health; Nurse Health Advice Line Pilot Program;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires and appropriates funds for the department of health to coordinate with private partnerships to develop a pilot program to provide Hawaii residents with information and access to a nurse health advice line.

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