
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOBILE CLINICS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that homelessness
2 continues to be one of the State's most significant and
3 challenging social problems. According to the 2016 Hawaii
4 statewide homeless point-in-time count conducted in January
5 2016, there are 7,921 homeless individuals in the State, an
6 overall increase of four per cent from 2015. Homeless persons
7 face a myriad of issues, including general health issues, mental
8 illness, and substance abuse. These issues affecting homeless
9 persons also impact the general population through the costs of
10 social and health care services. In fiscal years 2014 and 2015,
11 The Queen's Medical Center reported treating 3,441 patients who
12 were homeless. Treating these homeless individuals is sometimes
13 uncompensated, as is the case with an unsheltered patient who
14 reportedly received treatment 12,271 times over two years, which
15 cost The Queen's Medical Center more than \$5,000,000 per year.

16 The legislature further finds that mobile clinics are
17 increasing in popularity across the nation as government



1 entities find ways to address the health care needs of the
2 homeless population. In places such as Denver, Colorado;
3 Seattle, Washington; and San Jose, California, mobile clinics
4 offer a variety of free health care services for local homeless
5 populations, saving significant costs on emergency room visits.

6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for
7 establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to
8 serve the homeless population.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,400,000 or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
12 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
13 2018-2019 to purchase, staff, and operate two mobile clinics to
14 serve the homeless population; provided that:

15 (1) The staff shall include, at minimum, one doctor, one
16 nurse, one pharmacist, and one psychiatrist and may
17 include staff as needed, including students pursuing a
18 degree in medicine or nursing; and

19 (2) The mobile clinics may provide, at minimum, the
20 following services:



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- 1 (A) Non-emergency medical services for chronic,
- 2 acute, and episodic conditions;
- 3 (B) Sexually transmitted diseases, human
- 4 immunodeficiency virus, and hepatitis testing;
- 5 (C) Family planning;
- 6 (D) Child and family services;
- 7 (E) Behavioral health and substance abuse services;
- 8 (F) Mental health services;
- 9 (G) Dental care;
- 10 (H) Referral services;
- 11 (I) Shower and laundry services;
- 12 (J) Clean clothing;
- 13 (K) Health insurance enrollment;
- 14 (L) Pharmacy services; and
- 15 (M) Other assistance services.

16 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 17 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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Report Title:

Mobile Clinic; Homeless; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.

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