
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DENTAL HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that poor oral health is
2 linked with respiratory disease, cardiovascular disease, and
3 diabetes. Dental diseases also contribute to cardiac issues and
4 premature births. Furthermore, unaddressed dental needs affect
5 the ability of individuals to obtain and keep employment. The
6 legislature finds that among the medicaid programs that need to
7 be fully funded are dental benefits for adults. It is in the
8 best interests of the State to ensure access to dental health
9 care for its residents as oral health is an essential part of
10 general health and well-being.

11 The purpose of this Act is to improve access to dental
12 health care in the State by restoring basic adult dental
13 benefits to medicaid enrollees.

14 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
17 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year



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1 2018-2019 to restore basic adult dental benefits to medicaid
2 enrollees. The department of human services shall obtain the
3 maximum federal matching funds available for this expenditure.

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

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

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INTRODUCED BY:

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Ch. L. Hill

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JAN 23 2017



H.B. NO. 843

Report Title:

Dental Health; Medicaid; Adult Dental Benefits; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. Requires the Department of Human Services to obtain the maximum federal matching funds available for the expenditure.

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