
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of
2 health is responsible for administering and maintaining the
3 comprehensive state emergency medical service system, or state
4 emergency medical system. Administration of the system by a
5 state agency ensures that all emergency services, including
6 ground and air ambulance services conducted by or under the
7 authorization of the department of health or any county, are
8 consistent with part XVIII of chapter 321, Hawaii Revised
9 Statutes.

10 As required by Act 60, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, the
11 department of health contracted with the United States National
12 Highway Traffic Safety Administration under the guidance of a
13 steering committee to conduct a study of the state emergency
14 medical system. This review was conducted on October 14 to 18,
15 2019. The United States National Highway Traffic Safety
16 Administration identified the State's emergency medical system
17 as an essential public health service for both the State's



1 residents and visitors, which is a finding with which the
2 legislature concurs.

3 To fulfill the duties of the emergency medical services and
4 injury prevention system branch, it is imperative that the
5 department of health strive to ensure that the state emergency
6 medical system is efficiently maintained and effectively
7 provides emergency services.

8 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 9 (1) Require the department of health to work with the
10 National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, or
11 other qualified entity, to conduct a comprehensive
12 statewide workforce study reviewing the entire state
13 emergency medical system to identify strengths and
14 issues and provide recommendations to increase the
15 emergency medical technician and paramedic workforce;
- 16 (2) Conduct a comprehensive cost analysis of the entire
17 state emergency medical system to identify strengths
18 and any issues with the system and provide
19 recommendations to improve the economic function of
20 the system, including but not limited to centralized
21 purchasing and other cost-saving measures; and



1 (3) Appropriate funds for state emergency medical system
2 expenses to carry out this Act.

3 SECTION 2. (a) No later than September 30, 2020, the
4 department of health shall work with the National Registry of
5 Emergency Medical Technicians, or other qualified entity, to
6 conduct a study of the state emergency medical system workforce.

7 (b) The purpose of the study shall be to identify
8 strengths and any issues with the system and provide
9 recommendations to increase the emergency medical technician and
10 paramedic workforce.

11 (c) The department of health shall submit a report of its
12 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
13 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
14 to the convening of the regular session of 2021.

15 (d) The department of health shall invite a representative
16 of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician study
17 team to brief the members of the legislature once the written
18 report is finalized.

19 SECTION 3. (a) No later than September 30, 2020, the
20 department of health shall conduct a comprehensive cost analysis
21 of the entire state emergency medical system.



1 (b) The purpose of the cost analysis shall be to identify
2 strengths and any issues with the system and provide
3 recommendations to improve the economic function of the system,
4 including but not limited to centralized purchasing and other
5 cost-saving measures.

6 (c) The department of health shall submit a report of its
7 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
8 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
9 to the convening of the regular session of 2021.

10 (d) The department of health shall invite a representative
11 from the cost analysis team to brief the members of the
12 legislature once the written report is finalized.

13 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$25,000 or so much
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the
16 comprehensive workforce study of the state emergency medical
17 system workforce pursuant to section 2 of this Act.

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

20 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the
2 comprehensive cost analysis of the entire state emergency
3 medical system pursuant to section 3 of this Act.

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

6 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$15,776,780 or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
9 program ID HTH 730 to meet the collective bargaining
10 requirements and recurring personnel costs for service providers
11 contracted to provided pre-hospital emergency medical services
12 necessary to maintain the current level of pre-hospital
13 emergency medical system.

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

16 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,997,494 or so much
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
19 program ID HTH 730 to meet other current expenses.

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



1 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

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H.B. NO. 2236

Report Title:

Emergency Medical Services; Cost Analysis; Workforce Development; Collective Bargaining; Appropriation

Description:

Requires and appropriates funds for the department of health to conduct comprehensive workforce and cost analysis reviews with federal partners to improve efficiency, quality, and cost-effectiveness. Appropriates funds for collective bargaining increases and other current expenses.

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

