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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SPECIAL FUND.

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

1           SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to address an unmet  
2 need in the State for high acuity and high cost patients with  
3 chronic substance abuse and mental health disorders. Subacute  
4 residential stabilization services, otherwise known as crisis  
5 stabilization beds, will bridge the gap for individuals in  
6 crisis for whom acute inpatient hospitalization is unnecessary  
7 and lower level residential and community treatment modalities  
8 are insufficient.

9           Individuals who will benefit from crisis stabilization beds  
10 enter and re-enter the health care system through emergency  
11 departments, often under a designation for emergency examination  
12 pursuant to section 334-59, Hawaii Revised Statutes, more  
13 commonly known as "MH-1." Upon discharge, but before long-term  
14 rehabilitation and treatment may continue, some patients will  
15 require several days or weeks to de-escalate from their crisis  
16 in a controlled environment. However, Hawaii's treatment  
17 resources do not currently include crisis stabilization beds.

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1           The department of health proposes to invest in existing  
2 state facilities that have underutilized bed space to create an  
3 inventory of crisis stabilization beds. This Act authorizes the  
4 mental health and substance abuse special fund to be used for  
5 capital improvements. Due to focused efforts over the last  
6 several years to maximize billing and reimbursement, the mental  
7 health and substance abuse special fund can sustain both  
8 existing program operations and new capital improvements related  
9 to crisis stabilization beds.

10           SECTION 2. Section 334-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

12           "(a) There is established a special fund to be known as the  
13 mental health and substance abuse special fund into which shall  
14 be deposited all revenues and other moneys collected from  
15 certification programs and treatment services rendered by the  
16 mental health and substance abuse programs operated by the  
17 State. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the  
18 department is authorized to establish separate accounts within  
19 the special fund for depositing moneys received from  
20 certification programs and from each mental health and substance  
21 abuse program. Moneys deposited into the respective accounts of

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1 each program shall be used for the payment of the operating  
2 expenses or capital improvements of the respective program."

3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



7

BY REQUEST

JAN 21 2020

# H.B. NO. 2349

**Report Title:**

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Special Fund; Capital Improvement Projects

**Description:**

Authorizes expenditures from the mental health and substance abuse special fund to be used for capital improvement projects.

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

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: HEALTH

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SPECIAL FUND.

PURPOSE: To authorize use of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Special Fund moneys for capital improvements.

MEANS: Amend section 334-15(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: There are insufficient resources in Hawaii's health care inventory for the stabilization of patients experiencing crisis who do not meet hospital admission criteria and are too severely decompensated for lower levels of care. Existing but underutilized state facilities may be renovated to provide crisis stabilization beds with moneys in the mental health and substance abuse special fund, if authorization for capital improvements expenditures is provided.

Impact on the public: The availability of crisis intervention beds in underutilized state facilities is likely to improve overall mental health and substance abuse treatment compliance for complex patients such as those who are homeless.

Impact on the department and other agencies: Staff training and refurbishment of underutilized state facilities will be required.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM DESIGNATION: HTH-495.

OTHER AFFECTED  
AGENCIES:

None.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

Upon approval.