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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Centers for  
2 Disease Control and Prevention defines "Health in All Policies"  
3 (HiAP) as "a collaborative approach that integrates and  
4 articulates health considerations into policymaking across  
5 sectors to improve the health of all communities and people.  
6 HiAP recognizes that health is created by a multitude of factors  
7 beyond healthcare and, in many cases, beyond the scope of  
8 traditional public health activities". The HiAP approach was  
9 introduced by the federal government with tools for states and  
10 territories to improve health outcomes and is intended to be an  
11 effective way to identify gaps in evidence and to achieve health  
12 equity.

13           The American Public Health Association states the goal of  
14 HiAP is to "ensure that decision-makers are informed about the  
15 health, equity, and sustainability consequences of various  
16 policy options during the policy development process". The



1 implementation of HiAP requires the following five key  
2 strategies:

- 3 (1) Engaging and visioning;
- 4 (2) Convening and collaborating;
- 5 (3) Developing a plan;
- 6 (4) Investing in change; and
- 7 (5) Tracking progress.

8 The legislature also finds that Act 155, Session Laws of  
9 Hawaii 2014, added the "[e]limination of health disparities by  
10 identifying and addressing social determinants of health" to the  
11 State's objectives and policies for socio-cultural advancement-  
12 health in section 226-20(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and Act  
13 157, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, amended section 321-1, Hawaii  
14 Revised Statutes, by adding that the department of health "shall  
15 pursue as a goal, the achievement of health equity. The  
16 department shall consider social determinants of health in the  
17 assessment of state needs for health". These additions are  
18 consistent with HiAP goals to achieve health equity across  
19 communities and to do so by acknowledging and working  
20 collaboratively with governmental and non-governmental sectors.



1           However, the legislature finds that further updating the  
2 statutory description of the department of health's powers and  
3 duties, to describe population-based public health programs and  
4 employ multi-sectoral strategies to improve health outcomes,  
5 would enhance the department's goal of health equity. Thus, the  
6 purpose of this Act is to establish a working group to evaluate  
7 and advise on updating the statutory description of the  
8 department of health's statutory powers, duties, functions, and  
9 responsibilities, beginning with section 321-31, Hawaii Revised  
10 Statutes, to align with population-based approaches to public  
11 health and prevention that incorporate HiAP approaches and  
12 goals.

13           SECTION 2. (a) The department of health shall establish a  
14 working group to examine and develop recommendations to update  
15 the statutory description of the department of health's powers,  
16 duties, functions, and responsibilities in the Hawaii Revised  
17 Statutes and incorporate into the statutory description  
18 population-based approaches to public health and prevention that  
19 recognize that health is created by a multitude of factors  
20 beyond health care and requires a collaborative approach. The  
21 working group may evaluate the health impact assessment tool for



1 purposes of this Act, including the development of scenarios and  
2 criteria for which health impact assessments may be conducted  
3 for future policies and projects unrelated to the department of  
4 health.

5 For the purposes of this Act, "health impact assessment"  
6 means a systematic process that uses an array of data sources  
7 and analytic methods and considers input from stakeholders to  
8 determine the potential effects of a proposed policy, plan,  
9 program, or project on the health of a population and the  
10 distribution of those effects within the population.

11 (b) The working group shall consist of the following  
12 members:

13 (1) The director of health, who shall serve as  
14 chairperson;

15 (2) The vice president for research and innovation,  
16 University of Hawaii system, or the vice president's  
17 designee;

18 (3) The dean of the John A. Burns school of medicine at  
19 the University of Hawaii at Manoa, or the dean's  
20 designee;



1 (4) The state sustainability coordinator from the office  
2 of planning, or the coordinator's designee;

3 (5) A representative with expertise in health law policy;

4 (6) A representative with expertise in environmental  
5 health law policy;

6 (7) A representative with expertise in transportation  
7 policy;

8 (8) A representative with expertise in agriculture policy;  
9 and

10 (9) A representative from the planning department of each  
11 county.

12 (c) The working group shall submit a report of its  
13 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
14 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days before  
15 the convening of the regular session of 2020.

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and  
19 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
20 year 2020-2021 to support the activities of the working group  
21 established pursuant to this Act.



1           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
2 of health for the purposes of this Act.

3           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.



**Report Title:**

Department of Health; Working Group; Health in All Policies;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a working group to examine and advise on amendments that can be made to the statutory description of the department of health's powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities in the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Authorizes the working group to evaluate the health impact assessment tool. Appropriates funds to support the activities of the working group. (SD1)

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

