

JAN 18 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEDICAID.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that title 42 Code of
2 Federal Regulations section 431.53 requires that a state's
3 medicaid plan ensure necessary transportation for medicaid
4 recipients to and from medicaid service providers and must
5 describe the methods used to meet the transportation
6 requirement.

7 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii medicaid
8 state plan provides non-emergency individualized transportation
9 such as taxi transportation for medicaid recipients "in areas
10 not served by a bus system, or when travel by bus would be
11 either hazardous or cause extreme hardship to a recipient who is
12 ill or has a physical or mental impairment." However, many of
13 Hawaii's medicaid recipients with disabilities do not qualify
14 for non-emergency individualized transportation under the Hawaii
15 medicaid state plan because they are physically and mentally
16 able to take the city and county of Honolulu's special transit
17 service for persons with disabilities. Thus, Honolulu's special



1 transit service is the only non-emergency medical transportation
2 option for some medicaid recipients with disabilities who
3 require non-emergency medical transportation in order to receive
4 medicaid services, do not have access to a private vehicle, or
5 are not eligible for non-emergency individualized transportation
6 services, such as taxi transportation.

7 The legislature recognizes that Honolulu's special transit
8 service, with increased funding, could provide more efficient
9 and effective transportation services for medicaid recipients
10 with disabilities.

11 The legislature further recognizes that Honolulu's special
12 transit service, as a public transit system which transports
13 medicaid recipients to and from providers of medicaid services,
14 is eligible to receive funding from the department of human
15 services, Med-QUEST division, for non-emergency medical
16 transportation.

17 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
18 human services, Med-QUEST division, to amend the Hawaii medicaid
19 state plan to include the city and county of Honolulu's special
20 transit service as a method of providing non-emergency medical
21 transportation so that the special transit service may qualify



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1 as a provider of non-emergency medical transportation and
2 receive reimbursement for transportation medicaid recipients to
3 and from providers of medicaid services.

4 SECTION 2. The department of human services, Med-QUEST
5 division, shall amend the Hawaii medicaid state plan to include
6 the city and county of Honolulu's special transit service as a
7 method used to ensure necessary transportation of medicaid
8 recipients to and from providers of medicaid services.

9 SECTION 3. The department of human services, Med-QUEST
10 division, shall submit the amended Hawaii medicaid state plan to
11 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for review and
12 approval.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
14

INTRODUCED BY: Breene Hunt BR



S.B. NO. 668

Report Title:

Medicaid; Special Transit Services; Non-Emergency Medical Transportation; Hawaii State Medicaid Plan; Amendment

Description:

Requires the department of human services, Med-QUEST division, to amend the Hawaii medicaid state plan to include the city and county of Honolulu's special transit service as a method of providing non-emergency medical transportation so that the special transit service may receive reimbursement.

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