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STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
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December 23, 2020

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,  
President and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker  
and Members of the House of  
Representatives  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

Enclosed is the following report submitted in accordance with Senate Resolution 11 (2020), on the expansion of Med-QUEST coverage to all otherwise eligible post—partum women in the State for a period of twelve months following childbirth.

In accordance with section 93-16, HRS, the report is available to review electronically at the Department's website, at <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/reports/legislative-reports/>.

Sincerely,

Cathy Betts  
Director

Enclosure

c:

Governor's Office  
Lieutenant Governor's Office  
Department of Budget & Finance  
Legislative Auditor  
Legislative Reference Bureau Library (1 hard copy)

President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki

December 23, 2020

Page 2

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Hamilton Library, Serials Department, University of Hawaii (1 hard copy)

# Report to the Thirty-First Hawaii State Legislature 2021

In Accordance with Senate Resolution 11 (2020)

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
MED-QUEST DIVISION  
December 2020

This report is made in accordance with Senate Resolution 11 (SR11) (2020) requesting that the Department of Human Services (DHS) provide an estimate of the budget appropriation and legislative action necessary to fund an expansion of Med-QUEST coverage to all otherwise eligible post—partum women in the State for a period of twelve months following childbirth.

Testimony provided by DHS during the 2020 legislative session on the SB 2429, which proposed implementing a program of similar intent as SR 11, noted that the estimated budget needed would be approximately \$3.2 million state-only funds. The program would extend Medicaid coverage to post-partum women who were enrolled in Medicaid during their pregnancy for 12 months after birth. DHS research indicates that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has not approved other states' requests for twelve-month post-partum coverage, therefore, all expenditures would be state funded only with no federal Medicaid match.

Given the State's current fiscal situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the changing federal landscape, we think it is premature to make a legislative proposal at this time.