
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS STABILIZATION BEDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there are gaps in
2 the State's system to treat individuals with severe behavioral
3 health needs who may not require emergency room-level crisis
4 care. One such gap is the limited number of behavioral health
5 crisis stabilization beds that use intensive case management
6 services to help stabilize these individuals.

7 As noted in a 2018 Journal of Mental Health and Clinical
8 Psychology article entitled "Behavioral Health Crisis
9 Stabilization Centers: A New Normal", there has been a promising
10 shift in resources and funding from institutionalized care to
11 crisis stabilization centers. However, the crisis stabilization
12 center approach has been underfunded and often results in
13 individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis seeking
14 treatment at hospital emergency rooms and utilizing a great
15 amount of health care resources with short-term outcomes.
16 Studies have shown that the cost of crisis stabilization centers
17 is significantly less than emergency rooms and psychiatric



1 inpatient units. The legislature finds that the department of
2 health is currently exploring options to increase the number of
3 behavioral health crisis stabilization beds across the State and
4 estimates that the cost will be at least \$11,000,000.

5 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
6 funds to the adult mental health division of the department of
7 health to support increased behavioral health crisis
8 stabilization beds.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
12 behavioral health crisis stabilization beds.

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

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization Beds; Department of Health; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Adult Mental Health Division of the Department of Health to support increased behavioral health crisis stabilization beds. Effective 1/1/2050. (SD1)

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