

THE SENATE
KA 'AHA KENEKOA

THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, February 10, 2025
TIME: 1:20 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 225 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE TO THE STATE CAPITOL
BUILDING HOURS: 7AM TO 5PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY

The Legislature is accepting written, videoconference, and in-person testimony at public hearings.
A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

A G E N D A

SB 298 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES. Appropriates funds to increase funding for Medicaid in-home services, conditioned on the Department of Human Services obtaining maximum federal matching funds and pursuing all other funding sources.	HHS, WAM
SB 299 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO LOAN REPAYMENT FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS. Appropriates funds for the Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program.	HHS, WAM
SB 322 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO MEDICAID. Appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to achieve the full funding, including estimated payment increases, of Medicaid home- and community-based services.	HHS, WAM
SB 323 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH. Authorizes a person intoxicated by alcohol, under the influence of drugs, or incapacitated by substances, including a minor, to voluntarily admit themselves to a psychiatric facility or a behavioral health crisis center for an emergency evaluation to determine need for treatment.	HHS, JDC
SB 324 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO PHARMACISTS. Mandates reimbursement for services provided by participating registered pharmacists practicing within their scope of practice by private and public health plans in the State beginning January 1, 2026.	HHS, CPN

SB 450

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO AUTISM.

Appropriates funds to increase the funding for applied behavioral analysis services for persons with autism. Requires the Department of Human Services to obtain maximum federal matching funds and pursue all other funding sources. Appropriates funds.

HHS, WAM

SB 451

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

Requires the Department of Human Services to establish a Medicaid buy-in program for workers with disabilities.

HHS, WAM

SB 479

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO THE HAWAII ABLE SAVINGS PROGRAM.

Repeals language that gives the Director of Finance discretion to use moneys in the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund if the Director elects to accept deposits from contributors instead of sending deposits directly to the ABLE Program Manager. Authorizes the Director of Finance to expend moneys in the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund to provide incentive payments to Hawaii public school ABLE account owners. Appropriates funds.

HHS, WAM

SB 480

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO HEALTH.

Prohibits drug manufacturers and wholesale distributors from restricting or denying access for pharmacies contracted with 340B covered entities to purchase 340B drugs at a discounted price under the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program. Imposes civil penalties for engaging in unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce.

HHS, CPN/JDC

SB 481

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO COMMUNITY SERVICE LICENSES.

Allows a dental graduate from a dental college accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada to be an eligible candidate for a community service license (CSL). Repeals the requirement that the licensing examinations be completed within five years of a request for a CSL. Repeals the requirement that a CSL applicant provide a copy of an active, unrestricted dental practice license form another state. Repeals the prohibition against a person who failed the license examination from obtaining a CSL. Requires a CSL to be eligible for conversion to an unrestricted dental practice license when a dental provider who holds a CSL completes at least five thousand hours of community service to patients in the State.

HHS, CPN

SB 482

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS.

Requires all health care providers who accept Medicare to provide a cognitive assessment as part of the Medicare Part B annual wellness visit for Medicare beneficiaries sixty-five years of age or older, with certain exceptions. Requires health care providers to submit certain information to the Executive Office on Aging and the Executive Office on Aging to report de-identified aggregated data to the Legislature on an annual basis. Appropriates funds. Effective 1/1/2026.

HHS, WAM/CPN

SB 483 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO A RATE STUDY FOR HOME HEALTH SERVICES. Appropriates funding for the Department of Human Services to conduct a rate study for Medicaid home health services in Hawaii.	HHS, WAM
SB 710 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO CHILD WELFARE. Establishes the Child Welfare Task Force to develop strategies and policy changes to transform and improve the State's child welfare system. Requires support from the Department of Human Services. Requires a report to the legislature. Appropriates moneys.	HHS, WAM
SB 712 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO THE PRESCHOOL OPEN DOORS PROGRAM. Expands the preschool open door program's eligibility criteria. Repeals the requirement that open door program providers be accredited.	HHS, WAM
SB 950 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE. Requires the Office of Wellness and Resilience to design, implement, and administer trauma-informed organizational assessments and a training curriculum for Child Welfare Services to support the development of a trauma-informed child welfare system in the State. Allows the office to contract with public and private entities to provide necessary services. Appropriates funds.	HHS, WAM
SB 952 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO CHILD WELFARE SERVICES. Requires the Office of Wellness and Resilience to design, implement, and administer a two-year Child Welfare System Diversion and Intervention Pilot Program to support families and children involved, at risk of involvement, or at risk of re-involvement with child welfare services. Allows the office to contract with public and private entities to provide necessary services. Requires a report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.	HHS, WAM
SB 954 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO A RATE STUDY FOR HOME HEALTH SERVICES. Appropriates funding for the Department of Human Services to conduct a rate study for Medicaid home health services in Hawaii.	HHS, WAM
SB 956 Status & Testimony	RELATING TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS. Allows a patient seen in-person by another health care provider in the same medical group as the prescribing physician to be prescribed an opiate prescription for a three-day supply or less via telehealth.	HHS, CPN

SB 957

**Status &
Testimony**

RELATING TO OVERDOSE PREVENTION.

HHS, WAM/JDC

Establishes and provides criteria for overdose prevention centers, including standards for the Department of Health to designate certain facilities as overdose prevention centers. Establishes an Overdose Prevention Center Oversight Committee. Provides immunity from state criminal prosecution for certain offenses for persons using a designated overdose prevention center and persons operating a designated overdose prevention center.

SB 959

**Status &
Testimony**

RELATING TO HEALTH.

HHS, WAM

Establishes the Health Infrastructure Grant Program within the Department of Health, to be administered by the State Health Planning and Development Agency, to support health information technology infrastructure and the implementation of interoperable health information technologies in federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, Ryan White HIV/AIDS program centers, and Native Hawaiian health centers. Appropriates funds for the grant program.

SB 1609

**Status &
Testimony**

RELATING TO CHILD CARE.

HHS, WAM

Requires the Department of Human Services to establish and implement an early learning contracts program to make available a designated number of seats at licensed infant and toddler child care centers and family child care centers for families referred by the Department at a negotiated rate and schedule. Requires the Department of Human Services to submit reports to the Legislature.

Decision Making to follow, if time permits.

All testimony received by the Hawai'i Senate is posted on the Hawai'i Legislature's website, which is accessible to the public. Please do not include private information that you do not want disclosed to the public.

Please go to the Legislature's website, <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>, to submit **written testimony** at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. Create a free account on the website, or sign in to an existing account, then click on the "Participate" drop down menu and select the "Submit Testimony" option to get started. While submitting your written testimony, you will be prompted to indicate if you would also like to testify at the hearing in-person or remotely via videoconference.

Please note the following:

- The number of oral testifiers and/or time allotted to each testifier may be limited by the Chair when necessary to adhere to the committee hearing schedule. We may not be able to accommodate everyone who requests to testify orally.
- Testifiers for this hearing will be limited to **1 minute** each.

If you wish to **testify via videoconference** during the hearing, please review the detailed step-by-step instructions for testimony procedures before you submit your written testimony. Here's a direct link to the instructions: <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/docs/testimonyinstructions.pdf>

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov. You can also visit their website at <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/>.

For special assistance: The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please call the committee clerk at

the telephone number listed below or email HHScommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

For amended notices: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808) 586-6890.

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura
Chair