

JAN 16 2025

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TREATMENT FOR MENTAL ILLNESS.

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

1           SECTION 1. (a) There is established an intensive mobile  
2 team pilot program within the adult mental health division of  
3 the department of health to provide intensive mobile team  
4 services to chronically houseless adult individuals suffering  
5 from serious brain disorders, including but not limited to  
6 schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder.

7           (b) The pilot program shall establish one intensive mobile  
8 team in the community mental health center system.

9           (c) The intensive mobile team established for the purposes  
10 of the pilot program shall:

11           (1) Establish criteria for pilot program participation,  
12 which shall include being houseless and suffering from  
13 a serious brain disorder, prioritizing individuals  
14 with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder;

15           (2) Manage not more than forty participants who shall be  
16 vetted and enrolled by the intensive mobile team;



- 1           (3) Offer after-hours availability for existing  
2           participants, including:  
3           (A) Responding to crises;  
4           (B) Visiting emergency rooms; and  
5           (C) If and when participants are arrested, meeting  
6           with law enforcement and participants at the  
7           receiving desk or similar place where the  
8           participant is being held in custody to share  
9           information of the participant's participation in  
10          the pilot program;
- 11          (4) Determine, in collaboration with area hospitals and  
12          the behavioral health crisis center, appropriate  
13          hospitalizations or behavioral health crisis center  
14          admissions;
- 15          (5) Prioritize housing placements for participants;
- 16          (6) Begin participant treatment on psychiatric medications  
17          when appropriate;
- 18          (7) Actively pursue assisted community treatment orders  
19          when appropriate;
- 20          (8) Continue services if a participant is admitted to the  
21          Hawaii state hospital;



1           (9) Engage social work interns and advanced practice  
2           registered nurse students to expand service capacity  
3           for the target population; and

4           (10) Bill third-party payors, medicare, or medicaid, as  
5           appropriate for services.

6           (d) The department of health shall collaborate with law  
7           enforcement agencies, courts, hospitals, providers who serve  
8           houseless individuals, mental health providers, and community  
9           stakeholders for the implementation of the pilot program.

10          (e) The adult mental health division of the department of  
11          health shall submit a report on the intensive mobile team pilot  
12          program to the legislature no later than forty days prior to the  
13          convening of the regular sessions of 2026 and 2027. Each report  
14          shall include any proposed legislation and progress updates on  
15          the aggregate:

- 16           (1) Number of participant arrests;
- 17           (2) Number of participants requiring an emergency  
18           examination and hospitalization;
- 19           (3) Number of participants placed into housing;
- 20           (4) Number of participants started on medications;



- 1           (5) Number of participants hospitalized at the Hawaii
- 2           state hospital;
- 3           (6) Number of participants reconnected with family; and
- 4           (7) Number of assisted community treatment orders pursued
- 5           and granted.

6           (f) The intensive mobile team pilot program shall be  
7 dissolved on June 30, 2028.

8           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,300,000 or so much  
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the  
11 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
12 2026-2027 for operating costs and equipment for the intensive  
13 mobile team pilot program and the establishment of eight and  
14 one-tenth full-time equivalent (8.1 FTE) positions, including:

- 15           (1) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) human services
- 16           professional V who shall serve as the clinical
- 17           supervisor;
- 18           (2) One-half full-time equivalent (0.5 FTE) psychiatrist;
- 19           (3) Five full-time equivalent (5.0 FTE) human services
- 20           professionals or social workers;



- 1 (4) One-half full-time equivalent (0.5 FTE) registered
- 2 nurse;
- 3 (5) One-tenth full-time equivalent (0.1 FTE)
- 4 epidemiologist, epidemiology specialist, or research
- 5 statistician; and
- 6 (6) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) program specialist.

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

9 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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INTRODUCED BY:

*Karl Rhoads*



# S.B. NO. 434

**Report Title:**

DOH; Intensive Mobile Team Pilot Program; Reports;  
Appropriations

**Description:**

Establishes a pilot program in the Department of Health to provide intensive mobile treatment-type services, e.g., "street psychiatry", to chronically houseless adult individuals suffering from serious brain disorders like schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder. Requires reports to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.

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

