

ACT 63

S. B. 161.

A Bill for an Act Relating to Officers and Employees at Kalaupapa Settlement.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. This Act is hereby declared to be an urgency measure deemed necessary in the public interest within the meaning of section 11 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

The following is a statement of the facts constituting such urgency:

Existing law provides that in case any officer or employee of the department of health becomes ill or injured at the settlement at Kalaupapa and suitable medical, hospital, or related services are not available there, the department may incur and pay the reasonable and necessary expenses of removing and transporting the officer or employee to a place where such hospital or medical facilities can be secured.

Due to the isolated location of the settlement, the cost of transportation to suitable medical facilities is sizeable. This high cost of transportation and the possibility of the department of health refusing to pay for the expenses has led to hesitation and uncertainty on the part of sick or injured employees which might prove fatal in cases of emergencies.

It is therefore urgent and in the public interest that the State immediately rectify this situation by assuring the department of health employees at Kalaupapa prompt and adequate medical care in times of sickness or injury.

SECTION 2. Section 50-6 of the Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955 is amended to read as follows:

“§ 50-6. Officers and employees; sickness and accident; expense. If any officer or employee of the department becomes ill or is injured at the settlement at Kalaupapa and, in the opinion of the department or its agents, suitable medical, hospital, nursing or other services or facilities are not available there, the department shall incur and pay the reasonable and necessary expenses of removing and transporting such officer or employee to a place within the State where suitable hospital facilities or treatment can be secured.”

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved May 9, 1968.)