

ACT 13

H.B. NO. 872

A Bill for an Act Making an Emergency Appropriation to the Department of Human Services From the Nursing Facility Sustainability Program Special Fund.

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

SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for immediate passage in accordance with section 9 of article VII of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

SECTION 2. Nursing facilities in the State face major financial challenges in providing quality health care for Hawaii residents due largely in part to the cost of care provided to medicaid enrollees. Payments for these clients do not cover the actual costs of care. To address this challenge, the nursing facility sustainability program special fund was established by Act 156, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012. Use of revenue from the nursing facility sustainability program special fund includes increasing medicaid payments to private nursing facilities. In order to avoid any delay in payment to the nursing facilities for fiscal year 2012-2013, advancement of moneys from the health care payments program (HMS 401) for those payments to private nursing facilities will be made until payments can be made from the special fund.

This emergency appropriation will ensure continued timely payments to the nursing facilities and will ensure that there will be no disruption in the provision of medically necessary services to program recipients.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the nursing facility sustainability program special fund the sum of \$12,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for fiscal year 2012-2013, with such moneys to be used consistent with the uses authorized for the nursing facility sustainability program special fund, including the reimbursement of moneys advanced for those purposes in fiscal year 2012-2013 from the health care payments program (HMS 401).

SECTION 4. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of human services for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 16, 2013.)