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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTHCARE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's residents  
2   deserve universal and equitable access to affordable,  
3   high-quality healthcare. The Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act,  
4   enacted in 1974; state health insurance program, enacted in  
5   1989; and the State's successful medquest program are examples  
6   of Hawaii's tradition of innovation in healthcare system reform.  
7   However, further reforms are needed to address current gaps in  
8   residents' access to healthcare and health insurance. In 2024,  
9   approximately eighty thousand Hawaii residents are uninsured.

10           The legislature recognizes that many of the State's  
11   residents face numerous barriers to accessing healthcare and  
12   health insurance. These include high insurance costs for  
13   individuals and employers; confusing regulatory and  
14   administrative requirements; clear disparities in health  
15   outcomes and quality of care; and growing stresses on the  
16   healthcare workforce. Addressing these barriers requires the  
17   State to make a renewed commitment to guaranteeing universal



1 healthcare and health insurance coverage, streamlining  
2 administrative costs, and modernizing Hawaii's health system.

3 The legislature also recognizes that the state health  
4 planning and development agency was established to administer  
5 state health planning and cost containment activities. The  
6 agency is also the designated recipient of the data necessary to  
7 understand healthcare costs, quality of care issues, community  
8 health conditions, and healthcare disparities.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a task  
10 force, known as Hui Hoomana, to be convened by the state health  
11 planning and development agency, in coordination with the  
12 department of health, department of human services, and  
13 insurance commissioner. The purpose of the task force is to  
14 identify actionable priorities and financial resources to offer  
15 the State's residents universal and equitable access to  
16 affordable, high-quality healthcare and health insurance.

17 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the Hui Hoomana task  
18 force, to be led by the state health planning and development  
19 agency in coordination with the department of health, department  
20 of human services, and insurance commissioner. The task force  
21 shall comprise the following voting members; provided that



1 non-governmental members shall be invited by the chair of the  
2 task force to participate:

3 (1) The administrator of the state health planning and  
4 development agency, or the administrator's designee;

5 (2) The director of health, or the director's designee;

6 (3) The director of human services, or the director's  
7 designee;

8 (4) The insurance commissioner, or the commissioner's  
9 designee;

10 (5) The president of the Hawaii chapter of the National  
11 Association of Social Workers, or the president's  
12 designee;

13 (6) The president and chief executive officer of the  
14 Hawaii Medical Services Association, or the president  
15 and chief executive officer's designee;

16 (7) The president of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and  
17 Hospitals in Hawaii, or the president's designee;

18 (8) The president and chief executive officer of the  
19 Healthcare Association of Hawaii, or the president and  
20 chief executive officer's designee;



- 1           (9) The chief executive officer of the Hawaii Primary Care  
2           Association, or the chief executive officer's  
3           designee;
- 4           (10) The executive director of the Hawaii Medical  
5           Association, or the executive director's designee;
- 6           (11) The president of the Hawaii Nurses Association, or the  
7           president's designee;
- 8           (12) The president and chief executive officer of the  
9           Queen's Health System, or the president and chief  
10          executive officer's designee;
- 11          (13) The president and chief executive officer of Hawaii  
12          Pacific Health, or the president and chief executive  
13          officer's designee;
- 14          (14) The chief executive officer of the Hawaii Health  
15          Services Corporation, or the chief executive officer's  
16          designee;
- 17          (15) The chair of the Accountable Health Care Alliance of  
18          Rural Oahu, or the chair's designee;
- 19          (16) The chief executive officer of Papa Ola Lokahi, or the  
20          chief executive officer's designee;



- 1           (17) The chief executive officer of AlohaCare, or the chief  
2           executive officer's designee;
- 3           (18) The administrator of the Hawaii Employer-Union Health  
4           Benefits Trust Fund, or the administrator's designee;
- 5           (19) The state director of the American Association of  
6           Retired Persons Hawaii, or the state director's  
7           designee;
- 8           (20) The dean of the university of Hawaii John A. Burns  
9           school of medicine, or the dean's designee;
- 10          (21) The president of the Hawaii Pharmacists Association,  
11          or the president's designee; and
- 12          (22) One member from each county, to be selected by the  
13          county's respective mayor.
- 14          (b) The following shall serve as non-voting, ex-officio  
15 members:
- 16          (1) The governor's chief of staff, or the chief of staff's  
17          designee;
- 18          (2) The chair of the senate committee on health and human  
19          services, or the chair's designee;
- 20          (3) The chair of the house of representatives committee on  
21          health and homelessness, or the chair's designee;



- 1           (4) Two members selected by the state health planning and  
2           development agency from its statewide health  
3           coordinating council or its plan development  
4           committee;
- 5           (5) The director of public safety, or the director's  
6           designee;
- 7           (6) One member from the office of rural health, selected  
8           by the director of health;
- 9           (7) The administrator of the executive office on aging, or  
10          the administrator's designee;
- 11          (8) The attorney general, or the attorney general's  
12          designee;
- 13          (9) The superintendent of the Hawaii department of  
14          education, or the superintendent's designee; and
- 15          (10) The director of commerce and consumer affairs, or the  
16          director's designee.
- 17          (c) At the initial meeting of the Hui Hoomana task force,  
18          which shall occur no later than thirty days after the effective  
19          date of this Act, its members shall elect a chair, vice chair,  
20          and any other necessary officers from among its members.



1 (d) A majority of the voting members shall constitute a  
2 quorum to do business.

3 (e) The Hui Hoomana task force shall meet no less  
4 frequently than quarterly but may meet as often as the members  
5 consider necessary.

6 (f) The task force shall develop:

7 (1) A comprehensive plan, including a prioritized list of  
8 actionable tasks, for the State to offer universal  
9 access to high-quality healthcare and health insurance  
10 at costs that are affordable for individuals,  
11 employers, state and county governments, and unions;

12 (2) A strategy and timeline for carrying out the  
13 actionable tasks identified in the comprehensive plan;  
14 and

15 (3) A financial plan for securing the private, state, and  
16 federal funding needed to implement the comprehensive  
17 plan.

18 (g) Members of the Hui Hoomana task force shall serve  
19 without compensation but may be reimbursed for reasonable  
20 expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the  
21 performance of their duties.



1           (h) The Hawaii state health planning and development  
2 agency shall submit a preliminary report of the task force's  
3 findings, recommendations, and any proposed legislation, to the  
4 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
5 the regular session of 2025 and a final report before the  
6 regular session of 2025 session is adjourned.

7           (i) The task force shall cease to exist on July 1, 2025.

8           SECTION 3. It is not the intent of the legislature for  
9 this Act to jeopardize the receipt of any federal assistance or  
10 aid. If this Act is found to be in conflict with federal  
11 requirements that are a prescribed condition for the allocation  
12 of federal funds to the State, this Act shall be deemed void.

13           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Josh LeVice

JAN 24 2024



# H.B. NO. 2728

**Report Title:**

Healthcare; Health Insurance; Task Force; Reports

**Description:**

Establishes the Hui Hoomana task force to identify actionable priorities and financial resources to offer the State's residents universal access to affordable, high-quality healthcare and health insurance. Requires reports to the Legislature. Dissolves the task force on 7/1/2025.

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

