



SB 908

Measure Title:	RELATING TO HEALTH.
Report Title:	Community Health Centers; Appropriations; Affordable Care Act; Medicaid; Health Care Homes; Med-QUEST Programs; Healthcare (\$)
Description:	Appropriates funds to the department of human services to restore basic adult dental benefits to medicaid enrollees and to provide outreach and eligibility services for individuals and families at federally qualified health centers. Appropriates funds from the community health centers special fund to establish health care homes.
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	HSH/HTH, WAM
Introducer(s):	CHUN OAKLAND, BAKER



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2015**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:
S.B. NO. 908, RELATING TO HEALTH.

BEFORE THE:
SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING AND ON HEALTH

DATE: Tuesday, February 3, 2015 **TIME:** 1:20 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): RUSSELL A. SUZUKI, Attorney General, or
LILI A. YOUNG, Deputy Attorney General

Chairs Chun Oakland and Green and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

This bill appropriates funds to provide services to qualified individuals.

Section 5 on page 5, lines 5-17, seeks to appropriate moneys out of the community health centers special fund to the Department of Health to be transferred to the Department of Human Services (DHS), so DHS can establish health homes in the State's Medicaid program pursuant to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (collectively, ACA). While reference is made to establishment of "health care homes," only the term "health home" is referenced and defined in section 2703 of ACA. Thus, as noted below we recommend that the word "care" be deleted.

Additionally, section 321-1.65, Hawaii Revised Statutes, establishes the community health centers special fund and specifies that it is to "be administered and expended by the department of health for the operation of federally qualified health centers." To be effective, this bill must make it clear that the Department of Health is the expending agency, and not the Department of Human Services.

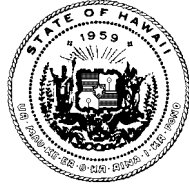
Consistent with these recommendations, we propose amending section 5 on page 5, lines 5-17, as follows:

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the community health centers special fund the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 to the department of health to be transferred to the department of human services [~~and~~

~~expended~~] to establish health [~~care~~] homes for medicaid enrollees at federally qualified community health centers as provided in the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010. The department of human services shall obtain the maximum federal matching funds available for this expenditure.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of [~~human services~~] health for the purposes of this section.

We respectfully request that the Committee consider our comments.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 3, 2015

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Chair
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 908 - RELATING TO HEALTH**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 3, 2015; 1:20 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to expand certain health care services to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees and to provide outreach and eligibility services for individuals and families at federally qualified health centers. The proposal appropriates funds from the community health centers special fund to establish health care homes.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this measure that would fund the restoration of adult dental benefits; fund out-stationed eligibility workers; and fund the establishment of a health home program. These initiatives are supportive of DHS' overall goals and objectives, but

we are concerned about the cost implications generated by the proposal and that passage of the bill may replace or adversely impact the priorities in the Executive Budget.

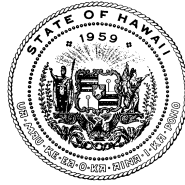
Section 3 requests an appropriation of \$4,800,000 to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. The Department estimates that re-establishing an adult dental program for Med-QUEST adults to provide dental benefits up to \$500 per person per benefit year and also provide medically needed dentures up to \$500 each for upper and lower dentures would cost a total of \$12,464,103 of which DHS would require \$4,799,926 in general funds.

Section 4 of this measure requests \$800,000 to provide outreach and eligibility services at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). The DHS, in its base budget under HMS 902 - General Support for Health Care Payments, has \$667,000 to continue funding 23 out-stationed eligibility workers (OEWs) at FQHCs and hospitals. Additional funding can increase the amount of outreach activities.

Section 5 of the bill requests an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to establish health homes with funds transferred from the Department of Health's community health centers special fund. These funds can be used to pay for the health home services and receive 90% matching federal funding. The DHS would need an appropriation of general funds to be able to administer the two-year health home program, which can receive 50% federal matching funds. However, based on an opinion from the Department of the Attorney General, the funds cannot be used for administrative purposes. Consequently, the DHS was unable to use moneys appropriated last legislative session from the community health center's special fund to administer the program based on the opinion of the Department of the Attorney General.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on S.B. 908
RELATING TO HEALTH**

SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING
AND SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING AND HEALTH

Hearing Date: February 3, 2015

Room Number: 016

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Section 5 of this measure appropriates the sum of \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2016
2 and \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 to be transferred from the Department of Health to the Department
3 of Human Services (“DHS”) to be expended for the establishment of health care homes for Medicaid
4 enrollees at federally qualified community health centers.

5 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health defers all sections of this measure to the DHS with
6 exception to Section 5 which it supports. The Department has sufficient funds in the community health
7 centers special fund account to transfer to the DHS as proposed in this measure for the establishment of
8 health care homes for Medicaid enrollees at federally qualified health centers. Section 321-1.65,
9 Hawaii Revised Statutes indicates that moneys in the community health centers special fund shall be
10 used by the Department of Health for the operations of federally qualified community health centers.

11 Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

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STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
February 3, 2015

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing
and

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Chun Oakland, Senator Green and Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: SB 908 – RELATING HEALTH

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS SB 908**. The bill appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees, to provide outreach and eligibility services for individuals and families at federally qualified health centers, and appropriates funds from the community health centers special funds to establish health care homes for Medicaid enrollees.

This bill represents a comprehensive package of medical, dental, and behavioral health care services with emphasis on obtaining the maximum Federal matching funds available for the appropriations. The Council is especially pleased with the appropriation of \$4,800,000 in Section 3 on Page 4, lines 5-13, for Fiscal Year 2016-2017, to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. This provision would directly benefit adults with DD in providing oral health services that includes preventive, restorative, and prosthetic services.

The Council cannot emphasize enough the importance of comprehensive dental care services that include preventive, restorative, prosthetic, and emergency services for people with DD. We are all aware of how oral health, or the lack thereof, affects all aspects (emotional, psychological, and social) of our lives. Numerous individuals can share with you their experience of having a tooth or teeth extracted or acquiring serious health problems because necessary dental services were not available because of the termination of the Medicaid adult dental benefit coverage in 1996. Compounding the challenges is the limited number of dentists on the Neighbor Islands who are available and accessible to serve Medicaid and QUEST recipients.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland
The Honorable Josh Green
Page 2
February 3, 2015

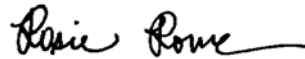
We applaud the Legislature's initiative in restoring basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees through SB 908.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB 908**.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe
Chair



HPCCA

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health

The Hon. Josh Green, Chair

The Hon. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Testimony on Senate Bill 908

Relating to Health

Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer

February 3, 2015, 2015, 1:20 pm, Room 016

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, also known as “community health centers,” supports Senate Bill 908, making appropriations to the Department of Human Services for services to qualified individuals and families.

We offer the following comments in addition to our overall support:

- Section 3 of this measure appropriates \$4.8 million dollars to restore an adult dental benefit in Medicaid. All fourteen of our community health centers provide dental services. Given the correlation between dental health with other health conditions, and the fact that 50% of community health centers patients are Medicaid enrollees, we have long advocated for the restoration of adult dental benefits (aside from emergency procedures) and see this as a start.
- Section 4 appropriates \$800,000 in funding for outreach and eligibility services at community health centers. Outreach workers at community health centers provide an essential service to the State and communities by assisting individuals and families in applying for not just Medicaid, but other State assistance programs. These include SNAP, TANF, and other essential services that speak to the social determinants of health and their direct impact on the well-being of communities in Hawaii.

Of special note here is that outreach funding differs greatly from any assistance rendered by the KOKUA program administered by the Hawaii Health Connector. Those funds are for the specific purpose of providing assistance to health insurance enrollment only, saying nothing of the other vital social programs housed in the Department of Human Services.

In addition, not all fourteen health centers currently participate in the Connector KOKUA program.

- Section 5 allocates \$1 million dollars from the community health center special fund as an interdepartmental transfer from the Department of Health to the Department of Human Services. These funds are intended to be used as the state match for a Medicaid health home state plan amendment to provide health home services to qualified patients at community health centers.

Community health centers have worked extensively to both research and implement health homes in recent years, having completed a standalone pilot project with quantifiable positive results. To date, ten separate community health centers have been awarded recognition as health home providers by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), the federal accrediting body.

The release of this funding will not only allow for enhanced services for patients at community health centers, it will take advantage of a 9-to-1 federal match that will bring a total of \$20M into the Hawaii healthcare infrastructure. Such funding could prove vital to closing any existing health inequities in the state.

For these reasons the HPCA supports this measure and thanks you for the opportunity to testify.



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

SB 908, Relating to Health
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing
Senate Committee on Health
Hearing--February 03, 2015 at 1:20 PM

My name is Paula Yoshioka, and I am a Senior Vice President at The Queen's Health Systems (QHS). I would like to provide my support for SB 908, which would provide state Medicaid funds to expand access to dental health services for low-income adults in Hawaii.

The Queen's Medical Center-Punchbowl provides dental services to a primarily low-income population. The majority of the adult patients seen at the dental clinic on the hospital's campus are enrolled in Medicaid. While this legislation focuses on many of the services provided by community health centers, it is important to note that there are other providers such as QHS that join in supporting this important program.

Providing dental health services to Hawaii's low-income adult population promotes community health and prevents costly emergency and specialty services. I would ask for your support in passing this important legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.



February 2, 2015

TO: Committee on Human Services and Housing Committee on Health
 Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair Senator Josh Green, Chair
 Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

FROM: Dr. Vija Sehgal, Pediatrician, Chief Quality Officer and Associate Medical Officer
 Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center / 697-3457 or wcchc@wcchc.com

RE: **Support for SB 908: Relating to Health**

The Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) strongly supports SB 908: Relating to Health. Of WCCHC's 31,152 patients, 67% are at 100% of the federal poverty level or below, 11% are uninsured, and 58% are receiving coverage under QUEST, the State's Medicaid program. Morbidity and mortality indicators show that the Waianae coast ranks highest in the City and County of Honolulu, as well as the state, for obesity (43.5%), adults who smoke (26%), adults with diabetes (13.7%), diseases of the heart (260.4 deaths per 100,000), and cancer (197 deaths per 100,000).

The WCCHC has found from its own experience that an effective means of improving these dire statistics is through implementing the Patient-Centered Health Care Home (PCHCH) model, which has been shown to improve health outcomes, reduce long-term cost, and enhance the patient experience.

There are multiple and important components of this bill, all critical to improving the health and well-being of patients we serve throughout Leeward Oahu.

Related to the uninsured, 13.3% of the population on the Waianae coast is uninsured, which is the highest in the City & County of Honolulu.

Related to adult dental health services, 44% of the adult population on the Waianae Coast has not had a dental visit, which is the highest in the state. It is critical to restore adult dental benefits to address dental health needs and its relationship to other health conditions.

Outreach and eligibility is an essential component of the PCHCH. Restoration of state funding is needed to support our patients and families to stabilize not only their health care needs but also their life circumstances that often negatively impact their health.

One key feature of SB 908 is the allocation of \$2 million dollars from the Community Health Center Special Fund as a interdepartmental transfer from the Department of Health to the Department of Human Services to be used as the state match for a Medicaid health care home state plan amendment to provide health care home services to qualified patients at community health centers. This \$2 million dollars (already allocated for community health centers) will be drawn down for a federal match of \$18 million dollar, for a total of \$20 Million for advanced, coordinated patient care for those with the most complex and severe illnesses.

This is a tremendous opportunity that comes along very rarely. We appreciate your consideration.



HO'ŌLA LĀHUI HAWAI'I
P.O. Box 3990; Līhu'e, Hawai'i
Phone: 808.240.0100 Fax: 808.246.9551

January 30, 2015

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of SB 908

Relating to Health

Tuesday, February 23, 2015, 1:20 P.M., Room 016

Ho`ola Lahui Hawaii the only Federally Qualified Health Center and Native Hawaiian Health Care System on Kauai is strongly **SUPPORTING** this bill to restore adult dental benefits for those on Medicaid.

We are encouraged that there are dental funds in this bill to restore to the adult dental benefit. It is very important that oral health be at the forefront of health care as many dental problems lead to more serious health deficits and basic dental is not just for cosmetic effect. It is vital to support the dental benefit restoration to Medicaid to those who are most in need. Prevention will save millions in restorative care services in the long term.

We believe that funding for expanded outreach services is essential. Those additional funds are critical to bring people into care earlier rather than later. It is extremely important to assure that this occurs as it saves lives and money.

Respectfully Requested,

David Peters
Chief Executive Officer

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HSH Testimony](#)
Cc: cvasconcellos@hanahealth.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB908 on Feb 3, 2015 13:20PM
Date: Monday, February 02, 2015 2:19:41 PM

SB908

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for HSH/HTH on Feb 3, 2015 13:20PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl Vasconcellos	Hana Health	Support	No

Comments: Hana Health supports SB 908 particularly Section 3 of this measure which appropriates \$4.8 million dollars to restore an adult dental benefit in Medicaid. The Hana District has some of the worst dental health indicators in the State, impacting the individual's overall health status. Providing "emergency" only dental care to medicaid patients defeats our efforts to "prevent" the on-set of chronic health problems and medical conditions. In the long term, addressing dental health issues before they become emergent will positively impact both the health of the patient and the bottom line.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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