A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DENTAL CARE.

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

1	SECTION 1. The legislature finds that inadequate dental		
2	care is a serious matter as dental care has been identified as		
3	one of the major health concerns for low-income adults and		
4	children, the aged, blind, and people with developmental		
5	disabilities. They face great challenges in accessing dental		
6	care service in an appropriate and timely manner. The lack of		
7	dental care for this population is profound and unacceptable.		
8	The legislature further finds that the department of health		
9	is optimally placed to establish community-based dental clinics		
10	statewide that will provide a continuum of dental care based on		
11	best practices for QUEST eligible adults and children, the aged,		
12	blind, and disabled population.		
13	The continuum of dental care should consist of but not be		
14	limited to:		
15	(1) A lead primary care dentist who is trained by an		
16	accredited dental school in the treatment of		
17	individuals with disabilities;		

1	(2)	Faculty supervision from dentists from an accredited
2		dental school providing appropriate sedation training;
3		and
4	(3)	Hospital-based care for anesthesia services.
5	The	purpose of this Act is to increase the State's ability
6	to addres	s the dental-health crisis it faces regarding QUEST
7	eligible	adults and children, the aged, blind, and disabled
8	populatio	n by:
9	(1)	Appropriating funds to the department of health to
10		help the greatest number of individuals who need
11		dental care and maximizing the potential for this
12		assistance by minimizing administrative costs; and
13	(2)	Allowing greater flexibility in the provision of this
14		care by establishing community-based dental health
15		clinics that are operated by community health centers
16		or other community-based organizations.
17	SECT	TION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
18	revenues	of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1 or so much thereof
19	as may be	e necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 to establish
20	communita	-hased dental health clinics operated by community

health centers or other community-based organizations to provide

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- 1 a continuum of dental care to QUEST eligible adults and
- 2 children, the aged, blind, and disabled population.
- 3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 4 health for the purposes of this Act.
- 5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

Report Title:

Dental Health

5B 3702 SD I HO I

Description:

Appropriates funds for community-based dental health clinics that are operated by community health centers or other community-based organizations to assist and improve the dental-health of QUEST eligible adults and children, the aged, blind, and disabled population. (SB3202 HD1)