
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Act 241, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, added a
2 new part to chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, entitled
3 "Medicaid Preauthorization Exemption", which consists of two
4 sections codified as sections 346-351 and 346-352, Hawaii
5 Revised Statutes, and which exempts physicians prescribing
6 immunosuppressant medication under medicaid from
7 preauthorization procedures. However, section 346-352, Hawaii
8 Revised Statutes, excludes QUEST medical plans from this
9 exemption and thereby restricts access of QUEST medicaid
10 recipients to immunosuppressant medication.

11 The purpose of this Act is to delete the QUEST medical
12 plans exclusion in section 346-352, Hawaii Revised Statutes.
13 Deletion of this exclusion will provide equal access to
14 medications for medicaid clients who suffer from human
15 immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or
16 hepatitis C, or who need immunosuppressives as a result of organ
17 transplants, regardless of whether they are in the medicaid fee-
18 for-service or the medicaid QUEST program.



1 SECTION 2. Section 346-352, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "[+]§346-352[+] **Preauthorization exemption for certain**
4 **physicians.** Any physician licensed in this State who treats a
5 medicaid recipient patient suffering from the human
6 immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or
7 hepatitis C, or who is a patient in need of transplant
8 immunosuppressives, may prescribe any medications approved by
9 the United States Food and Drug Administration and that are
10 eligible [~~for~~] pursuant to the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation
11 Rebates Act [~~(OBRA), that are~~] and necessary to treat the
12 condition, without having to comply with the requirements of any
13 preauthorization procedure established by any other provision of
14 this chapter. [~~This section shall not apply to QUEST medical~~
15 ~~plans.~~]"

16 SECTION 3. The department of human services shall prepare
17 and submit an economic impact assessment report, including
18 findings, recommendations, and any proposed legislation, to the
19 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
20 the 2010, 2011, and 2012 regular sessions. The economic impact
21 assessment report shall include information obtained from
22 insurance providers who provide medicaid and QUEST coverage on



1 the additional costs incurred as a result of providing access to
2 immunosuppressant medication to QUEST patients suffering from
3 the conditions as described in section 346-352, Hawaii Revised
4 Statutes.

5 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2008,
8 and shall be repealed on July 1, 2013; provided that section
9 346-352, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall not be repealed but
10 shall be reenacted in the form in which it read on the day
11 before this Act took effect.



Report Title:

Medicaid; Immunosuppressant Medication

Description:

Provides equal access to immunosuppressant medication for medicaid patients with HIV, AIDS, or hepatitis C, or who require immunosuppressives due to organ transplants, regardless of whether they are in the medicaid fee-for-service or QUEST programs. Requires economic impact assessment. Effective January 1, 2008, and sunsets July 1, 2013. (SD1)

