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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DRUG ABUSE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that crystal  
2 methamphetamine addiction is a major contributor to crime in our  
3 state and adversely affects many other aspects of our society.  
4 In many cases, addicts commit crimes to support their  
5 addictions. The healing of or cure for the addiction is vital  
6 to the overall well-being of Hawaii's people.

7           The legislature also finds that the PROMETA treatment  
8 protocol may help curtail the often violent withdrawal cravings  
9 of crystal methamphetamine addicts. Introduced in 2003, PROMETA  
10 is an integrated, physician-based treatment protocol for  
11 alcohol, cocaine, and methamphetamine dependence that uses a  
12 combination of prescription medications and nutritional  
13 supplements administered in a proprietary manner, and therapy.

14           The PROMETA treatment protocol consists of four steps:

15           (1) A comprehensive medical exam, including urine and  
16           blood tests;

17           (2) Administration of oral and intravenous medications and  
18           nutritional supplements over three consecutive days;



1 (3) A second physician-supervised treatment of two visits  
2 on consecutive days, about three weeks after the  
3 initial treatment; and

4 (4) One month of prescription medications and nutritional  
5 supplements, coupled with individualized after-care.

6 Treatment takes place at a hospital facility, a treatment  
7 center, or a physician practice that has licensed the rights to  
8 use PROMETA, and does not require long periods away from home or  
9 work.

10 Although the medications administered under PROMETA are  
11 approved by the Food and Drug Administration, their combined  
12 application in treatment of alcohol, cocaine, and  
13 methamphetamine dependence have not yet been established.  
14 Clinical studies are being conducted.

15 It is imperative that our State take immediate action to  
16 control an addiction that has grown to epidemic proportions.  
17 The PROMETA method of treatment is promising, and pilot studies  
18 are already in progress in Arizona, Georgia, and South Carolina.

19 The purpose of this Act is to establish and appropriate  
20 funds for:

21 (1) A review of pilot studies being conducted in other  
22 states on use of the PROMETA treatment protocol to



1 address the withdrawal cravings of crystal  
2 methamphetamine addicts; and

3 (2) A plan to adopt the PROMETA treatment protocol, if the  
4 review is favorable, as an alternative drug abuse  
5 treatment program for persons convicted of substance  
6 abuse or related offenses.

7 SECTION 2. (a) The department of health and chairs of the  
8 health committees of the senate and house of representatives  
9 shall conduct a review of the pilot studies being conducted in  
10 other states on use of the PROMETA treatment protocol to address  
11 the withdrawal cravings of crystal methamphetamine addicts. The  
12 review shall:

13 (1) Consider at least three pilot studies and their  
14 results; and

15 (2) Determine whether the PROMETA treatment protocol is  
16 successful in that it provides at least a thirty per  
17 cent reduction in recidivism rates for crystal  
18 methamphetamine users in the twelve months following  
19 treatment.

20 (b) If the review is favorable, the State shall develop a  
21 plan to adopt the PROMETA treatment protocol as an alternative  
22 drug abuse treatment program for persons convicted of substance



1 abuse or related offenses. The plan shall include a process by  
2 which the prosecuting attorneys of each county screen and  
3 identify individuals to undergo the PROMETA treatment; provided  
4 that participation in the PROMETA treatment shall be on a  
5 strictly voluntary basis; provided further that participants  
6 shall indemnify the State of any adverse effects.

7 (c) The department of health shall submit to the  
8 legislature a report of its findings and recommendations,  
9 including any proposed legislation, no later than twenty days  
10 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2008.

11 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 for a  
14 review of the pilot studies being conducted in other states on  
15 use of the PROMETA treatment protocol to address the withdrawal  
16 cravings of crystal methamphetamine addicts.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
18 health for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
21 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to develop  
22 a plan to adopt the PROMETA treatment protocol as an alternative



1 drug abuse treatment program for persons convicted of substance  
2 abuse or related offenses; provided that:

3 (1) The report from the department of health is favorable;  
4 and

5 (2) The department of health shall conduct price  
6 negotiations for use of the PROMETA treatment  
7 protocol.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
9 health for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Drug Abuse Treatment; PROMETA

**Description:**

Establishes and appropriates funds for a review of pilot studies being conducted in other states on use of the PROMETA treatment protocol to address the withdrawal cravings of crystal methamphetamine addicts, and a plan to adopt the PROMETA treatment protocol, if the review is favorable, as an alternative drug abuse treatment program for persons convicted of substance abuse or related offenses. (HB1792 HD2)

