

JAN 19 2007

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOLOKAI GENERAL HOSPITAL.

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

1           SECTION 1. Molokai General Hospital - a critical access  
2 hospital - is the only hospital on the island of Molokai and  
3 serves a population of approximately seven thousand five hundred  
4 residents and all visitors. The hospital is a fifteen-bed  
5 facility with thirteen acute-care beds and two long-term care  
6 beds. It represents the only twenty-four-hour emergency  
7 services, acute medical and pediatric inpatient care, midwifery  
8 (obstetrical) care, radiology, CT, laboratory, and respiratory  
9 therapy services on Molokai.

10           In addition, it provides mammography and ultrasound,  
11 comprehensive physical therapy services, family planning,  
12 chemotherapy, hospice/comfort care, and specialty clinics  
13 including endoscopic procedures. Molokai General Hospital's  
14 rural health clinic is one of only five sites in Hawaii (and the  
15 only one on Molokai) with a program certified by the American  
16 Diabetes Association for diabetes care management.



1           Although Molokai General Hospital is not a state hospital,  
2 it receives a monthly subsidy from the State as a community  
3 hospital. Molokai General Hospital receives most of its  
4 financial and management support as a subsidiary of The Queen's  
5 Health Systems.

6           However, The Queen's Health Systems has had challenges due  
7 to reimbursement shortfalls in medicaid and medicare programs;  
8 increases in uncompensated care to include charity and bad debt  
9 along with ongoing losses in behavioral health and other  
10 essential community programs to benefit the needy and  
11 underserved. Also, as Hawaii's only verified trauma center, The  
12 Queen's Medical Center incurs costs - which continue to rise -  
13 to maintain this essential service for the entire State, twenty  
14 four hours a day, seven days a week.

15           Given these and numerous other community needs supported by  
16 the Queen's Health Systems, increased financial support from the  
17 State, the county of Maui, and federal and private grants is  
18 essential for Molokai General Hospital and the people of  
19 Molokai.

20           The purpose of this Act is to provide financial support to  
21 Molokai General Hospital for its operating costs.



# S.B. NO. 1038

1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
 2 revenues of the state of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000, or so  
 3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
 4 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
 5 year 2008-2009, for operating expenses of Molokai General  
 6 Hospital.

7 SECTION 3. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the  
 8 department of health for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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**Report Title:**

Molokai General Hospital; Operating Expenses

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the department of health for operating expenses of Molokai General Hospital.

