

JAN 28 2009

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) There is established the temporary health
2 insurance for unemployed persons program to provide temporary
3 health care coverage for persons who have lost employment on or
4 after July 1, 2008.

5 (b) To be eligible to participate in this program the
6 person shall:

7 (1) Have lost the person's health insurance as a result of
8 a furlough, layoff, reduced work hours, or termination
9 of employment on or after July 1, 2008;

10 (2) Be ineligible for any health insurance coverage from
11 another source; and

12 (3) Agree to pay for the costs of the premium for the
13 person's coverage.

14 (c) The temporary health insurance for unemployed persons
15 program shall provide a benefit package similar to the basic
16 benefits provided by the department of human service's QUEST-Net



1 program and shall be administered by the department of human
2 services.

3 SECTION 2. (a) If a person is entitled to continue health
4 insurance coverage under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget
5 Reconciliation Act, that person may apply for reimbursement of
6 up to \$125 per month for a single covered person and up to \$315
7 per month for family coverage for the purpose of continuing the
8 person's health insurance and prescription drug coverage.

9 (b) The total reimbursement a person may collect under
10 this section shall be for three months of coverage from the
11 effective date of the individual's loss of coverage.

12 (c) A person is eligible for reimbursement of payments if:

13 (1) The person became unemployed or furloughed, was laid
14 off, or suffered a reduction in work hours that has
15 resulted in the loss of the person's employment
16 related group health insurance which occurred on or
17 after July 1, 2008;

18 (2) The person is ineligible for any other insurance
19 coverage as a beneficiary of another person;

20 (3) The person is entitled to continue health insurance
21 coverage under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget
22 Reconciliation Act;



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2 (4) The person is not eligible for any other employment
3 related group health coverage reimbursement or subsidy
4 to assist the unemployed person in continuing the
5 person's group health insurance coverage;

6 (5) The person certifies in writing the amount paid by the
7 person for prescription and medical coverage for the
8 three-month period beginning on the effective date of
9 the person's loss of coverage; and

10 (6) The person's employer certifies in writing that the
11 person is not entitled to any other subsidy to cover
12 the cost of health insurance and prescription coverage
13 offered by the employer or the employer's health
14 insurer.

15 (d) Reimbursements under this section shall be
16 administered by the department of labor and industrial
17 relations.

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and
21 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
22 year 2010-2011 for administration of the temporary health

1 insurance for unemployed persons program established by this
2 Act.

3 The sums appropriated by this section shall be expended by
4 the department of human services.

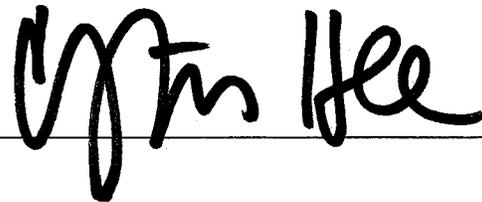
5 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and
8 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
9 year 2010-2011 for the reimbursement of payments made under this
10 Act.

11 The sums appropriated by this section shall be expended by
12 the department of labor and industrial relations.

13 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2009;
14 provided that sections 1 and 2 shall be repealed on June 30,
15 2011.

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INTRODUCED BY:



Report Title:

Temporary Health Insurance, Unemployment

Description:

Creates the temporary health insurance for unemployed persons program to provide temporary health insurance to persons who have lost coverage and assist with premiums for persons who are COBRA-eligible due to furlough, layoff, reduced work hours, or termination of employment on or after July 1, 2008.

