
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that childhood obesity is
2 a serious medical condition affecting the State's children and
3 adolescents. Childhood obesity often leads to health problems
4 that were once limited to adults such as diabetes, high blood
5 pressure, and high cholesterol. Childhood obesity can also lead
6 to poor self-esteem and depression. Combating childhood obesity
7 is an intelligent step towards limiting future health-related
8 costs as overweight children with health and possibly
9 psychological issues who are not treated may grow into adults
10 with chronic conditions.

11 The purpose of this Act is to establish a childhood obesity
12 pilot program.

13 SECTION 2. There is established under the department of
14 health for administrative purposes a two-year childhood obesity
15 pilot program. The department of health shall provide
16 administrative support for the childhood obesity pilot program.

17 As used throughout this Act, "childhood obesity" shall mean
18 the condition when a person under eighteen years of age has a



1 body mass index in the ninety-fifth percentile or above for that
2 person's age; provided that other factors such as whether the
3 person has a larger than average body frame or is more muscular
4 than average shall be considered by the physician diagnosing the
5 condition.

6 SECTION 3. (a) The department of health shall select
7 twenty health care providers to participate in the childhood
8 obesity pilot program. These provider participants shall
9 include no less than one of each of the following health care
10 providers:

- 11 (1) A solo medical practitioner;
- 12 (2) A medical practitioner who practices in a group health
13 care setting;
- 14 (3) A pediatrician;
- 15 (4) A registered dietician;
- 16 (5) A doctor of internal medicine;
- 17 (6) A psychiatrist;
- 18 (7) A psychologist; and
- 19 (8) A registered nurse.

20 (b) All individual and group hospital and medical service
21 corporation insurers that provide coverage for an insured whose
22 dependent child visits a provider participant of the childhood



1 obesity pilot program shall provide coverage for the treatment
2 of childhood obesity under and for the duration of the childhood
3 obesity pilot program for the insured or dependents of the
4 insured in this State.

5 (c) Each policy of accident and health or sickness
6 insurance, other than life insurance, disability income
7 insurance, and long-term care insurance, issued or renewed in
8 this State, each employer group health policy, contract, plan,
9 or agreement issued or renewed in this State, all accident and
10 health or sickness insurance policies issued or renewed in this
11 State, all policies providing family coverages as defined in
12 section 431:10A-103, and all policies providing reciprocal
13 beneficiary family coverage as defined in section 431:10A-601,
14 shall contain a provision for coverage for the treatment of
15 childhood obesity under and for the duration of the childhood
16 obesity pilot program for its insureds or dependents of its
17 insureds in this State.

18 (d) Every insurer, mutual benefit society, and fraternal
19 benefit society shall provide notice to its insureds regarding
20 the coverage required by this section. The notice shall be in
21 writing and prominently placed in any literature or
22 correspondence sent to the insureds and shall be transmitted to



1 the insureds during the 2012 calendar year when annual
2 information is made available to the insureds, or in any other
3 mailing to the insureds, but in no case later than December 31,
4 2012.

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 2011-2012 and
8 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
9 year 2012-2013 for the administration of the childhood obesity
10 pilot program.

11 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
12 of health for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 5. The childhood obesity pilot program provider
14 participants shall submit a joint report detailing their
15 analysis of the operational successes and challenges of the
16 childhood obesity pilot program, along with any findings,
17 recommendations, or proposed legislation to the department of
18 health and the legislature no later than twenty days prior to
19 the convening of the 2014 regular session.

20 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

21



Report Title:

Health; Childhood Obesity Pilot Program; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the childhood obesity pilot program and requires insurers to cover childhood obesity as a billable provider visit for services rendered by participating health care providers. Appropriates funds for the administration of the childhood obesity pilot program. Requires the childhood obesity pilot program provider participants to submit a report to the department of health and the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2014 regular session. (SD1)

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