JAN 1 9 2012

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that QUEST expanded
- 2 access is a medicaid-managed care program that replaced a fee-
- 3 for-service program in 2009, and provides health care to
- 4 individuals with low incomes who are aged, blind, or disabled.
- 5 These individuals typically have multiple medical conditions and
- 6 require care from different health care providers. The annual
- 7 budget for QUEST expanded access is \$500,000,000.
- 8 The goals of QUEST expanded access include a reduction in
- 9 the fragmentation of care and the assurance of coordination
- 10 across the health care continuum. In addition, the program is
- 11 designed to be fiscally predictable, stable, and sustainable to
- 12 ensure access to high-quality, cost-effective care. However,
- 13 despite these high ideals, enrollees, advocates, and health care
- 14 providers have expressed serious concerns that QUEST expanded
- 15 access is failing to meet its stated goals and that many
- 16 enrollees are not receiving adequate care.

1 The legislature also finds that QUEST expanded access 2 should be formally evaluated to determine whether these concerns are valid and, if so, to correct existing problems. 3 4 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the executive office on aging of the department of health to conduct 5 6 an evaluation of QUEST expanded access. 7 SECTION 2. (a) The department of health's executive 8 office on aging shall conduct an evaluation of the QUEST 9 expanded access program. 10 (b) The evaluation shall: 11 Determine whether the program's goals are being (1) 12 achieved; and 13 (2) Formulate recommendations, if the evaluation 14 determines that any of the goals of QUEST expanded 15 access have not been achieved. 16 (c) The director of the executive office on aging shall 17 submit a report of the evaluation's findings and 18 recommendations, if any, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2013 regular session. 19 20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much

thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the

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S.B. NO. 2094

- 1 executive office on aging of the department of health to conduct
- 2 a program evaluation of the QUEST expanded access program.
- 3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 4 health for the purposes of this Act.
- 5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

INTRODUCED BY:

S.B. NO. 2094

Report Title:

QUEST Expanded Access; Evaluation; Executive Office on Aging; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of health's executive office on aging to conduct an evaluation of the QUEST expanded access program.

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