
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOBILE CLINICS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that homelessness
2 continues to be one of the State's most significant and
3 challenging social problems. According to the 2016 Hawaii
4 statewide homeless point-in-time count conducted in January
5 2016, there are 7,921 homeless individuals in the State, an
6 overall increase of four per cent from 2015. Homeless persons
7 face a myriad of issues, including general health issues, mental
8 illness, and substance abuse. These issues affecting homeless
9 persons also impact the general population through the costs of
10 social and health care services. In fiscal years 2014 and 2015,
11 The Queen's Medical Center reported treating 3,441 patients who
12 were homeless. Treating these homeless individuals is sometimes
13 uncompensated, as is the case with an unsheltered patient who
14 reportedly received treatment 12,271 times over two years, which
15 cost The Queen's Medical Center more than \$5,000,000 per year.

16 The legislature further finds that mobile clinics are
17 increasing in popularity across the nation as government find



1 ways to address the health care needs of the homeless
2 population. In places such as Denver, Colorado; Seattle,
3 Washington; and San Jose, California, mobile clinics offer a
4 variety of free health care services for local homeless
5 populations, resulting in significant cost savings when compared
6 to emergency room visits.

7 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for
8 establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to
9 serve the homeless population.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and
13 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
14 year 2018-2019 to purchase, staff, and operate two mobile
15 clinics to serve the homeless population; provided that:

16 (1) The staff shall include, at minimum, one primary care
17 provider, one nurse, one pharmacist, and one
18 psychiatrist and may include staff as needed,
19 including a social worker, outreach worker, and
20 students pursuing a degree in medicine or nursing; and



- 1 (2) The mobile clinics may provide, at minimum, the
- 2 following services:
- 3 (A) Non-emergency medical services for chronic,
- 4 acute, and episodic conditions;
- 5 (B) Sexually transmitted disease, human
- 6 immunodeficiency virus, and hepatitis testing;
- 7 (C) Family planning;
- 8 (D) Child and family services;
- 9 (E) Behavioral health and substance abuse services;
- 10 (F) Mental health services;
- 11 (G) Dental care;
- 12 (H) Referral services;
- 13 (I) Shower and laundry services;
- 14 (J) Clean clothing;
- 15 (K) Health insurance enrollment;
- 16 (L) Pharmacy services;
- 17 (M) Street medicine; provided that for the purposes
- 18 of this subparagraph, "street medicine" means the
- 19 practice of directly delivering health care and
- 20 related services to persons found on the streets,



1 in parks, along river banks, on beaches, and in
2 abandoned buildings throughout the State; and
3 (N) Other assistance services.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
5 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2075.



Report Title:

Mobile Clinic; Homeless; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to purchase, staff, and operate two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population. Takes effect on 7/1/2075. (SD1)

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