
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SEPSIS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that sepsis is an
2 inflammatory response to a severe infection that can quickly
3 progress to multisystem organ failure and death. Early
4 recognition and intensive treatment are crucial to decreasing
5 morbidity and mortality from sepsis. However, sepsis is not a
6 reportable condition, and there is no single diagnostic test
7 that identifies cases of sepsis.

8 The legislature also finds that public education about
9 sepsis symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and preventative measures
10 is lacking because sepsis is a clinical syndrome with many
11 causes that requires diagnosis by a clinician. Despite the lack
12 of public education about sepsis, groups such as the Centers for
13 Disease Control and Prevention and Sepsis Alliance work to
14 promote sepsis awareness. Currently, there is no organization
15 in Hawaii dedicated to provide education about, and raise
16 awareness of, sepsis.

17 Via the passing of house concurrent resolution no. 202,
18 S.D. 1 (2014), the legislature expressed its commitment to



1 support preventative measures to address the rising health
2 problem of sepsis and established the state sepsis task force.
3 Specifically, the resolution requested that the director of
4 health convene the task force to recommend ways to reduce
5 incidents of sepsis and sepsis deaths in the State, as well as
6 consider and incorporate the findings and recommendations of the
7 task force as feasible, as part of a comprehensive plan to be
8 developed by the department of health. In its January 2015
9 report to the legislature, the sepsis task force recommended the
10 adoption of sepsis educational materials and initiatives by
11 health care facilities.

12 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a
13 pilot project to provide education about, and raise awareness
14 of, sepsis in Hawaii.

15 SECTION 2. (a) The department of health shall conduct a
16 one-year pilot project to provide education about, and raise
17 awareness of, sepsis across the State.

18 (b) The pilot project shall:

19 (1) Encourage the adoption of sepsis educational materials
20 and initiatives by health care facilities in the
21 State; and



1 (2) Disseminate current best practices to health care
2 facilities in the State regarding sepsis early
3 recognition and intervention.

4 (c) The department of health shall submit a report of its
5 findings and recommendations relating to the execution and
6 outcome of the pilot project, including any proposed
7 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
8 to the convening of the regular session of 2018.

9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 for a
12 one-year pilot project to provide education about, and raise
13 awareness of, sepsis across the State.

14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
15 health for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Department of Health; Sepsis; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the DOH to conduct a one-year pilot project for sepsis education and awareness. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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