
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 many persons who
2 have been diagnosed with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder face
3 profound challenges in navigating the State's present system of
4 care. Many persons with diagnoses on the spectrum cope with
5 lifelong physical, cognitive, or behavioral disabilities but age
6 out of eligibility for care services once they become adults.
7 Persons having fetal alcohol spectrum disorders or their parents
8 or caregivers may also find it difficult to access proactive
9 therapies that teach coping skills, improve functioning, and
10 foster community connections. The absence of these care
11 services can be devastating for those who face cognitive or
12 behavioral deficits due to their conditions; approximately fifty
13 per cent of persons diagnosed with fetal alcohol spectrum
14 disorder ultimately become involved with the criminal justice
15 system.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a task
17 force to identify therapies and home- and community-based care



1 services that may benefit individuals with fetal alcohol
2 spectrum disorders, including therapies and treatments that may
3 benefit these individuals as adults. The task force shall also
4 identify strategies to reduce the incidence and impact of fetal
5 alcohol spectrum disorder in Hawaii that encompass the areas of
6 screening and diagnosis, prevention, health promotion, and
7 interventions that take into consideration needs across the
8 lifespan through a community-wide, coordinated effort.

9 SECTION 2. (a) There is established within the behavioral
10 health services administration of the department of health a
11 task force to review best care practices for persons having
12 fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, including therapies and
13 treatments commonly needed as adults. The task force shall
14 consist of:

- 15 (1) A representative of the behavioral health services
16 administration of the department of health;
- 17 (2) A representative of the developmental disabilities
18 division of the department of health;
- 19 (3) A representative of the adult mental health division
20 of the department of health;



- 1 (4) A representative of the child and adolescent mental
- 2 health division of the department of health;
- 3 (5) A representative of the department of human services;
- 4 (6) A representative of the med-QUEST division of the
- 5 department of human services;
- 6 (7) A representative of the state council on developmental
- 7 disabilities;
- 8 (8) At least one representative from a med-QUEST health
- 9 plan, who shall be invited to participate;
- 10 (9) A member to be selected by the chair of the house of
- 11 representatives committee on human services and
- 12 homelessness;
- 13 (10) A member to be selected by the chair of the house of
- 14 representatives committee on health;
- 15 (11) A member to be selected by the chair of the senate
- 16 committee on commerce, consumer protection, and
- 17 health;
- 18 (12) At least one member of a developmental or intellectual
- 19 disability advocacy group, who shall be invited to
- 20 participate;



- 1 (13) Two parent-advocates to be selected and invited to
2 participate by the speaker of the house of
3 representatives;
- 4 (14) Two parent-advocates to be selected and invited to
5 participate by the president of the senate; and
- 6 (15) Any additional representatives from state agencies,
7 stakeholders, advocates, parent-advocates, or other
8 individuals as deemed necessary by the majority of the
9 task force members.
- 10 (b) The task force shall conduct a study and submit a
11 report of its findings and recommendations to the legislature no
12 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
13 session of 2021. The study shall include:
- 14 (1) Identification of all populations and sub-populations
15 having fetal alcohol spectrum disorders in the State
16 that currently, or may in the future, experience
17 burdens in navigating and accessing care services;
- 18 (2) Identification of therapies and home- and community-
19 based care services that may benefit persons having
20 fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, including therapies



- 1 and treatments that may benefit those persons as
2 adults. These may include but are not limited to:
- 3 (A) Assistive technology;
 - 4 (B) Career planning, including vocational assessment
5 and job placement services;
 - 6 (C) Community transition services;
 - 7 (D) Day habilitation;
 - 8 (E) Family support;
 - 9 (F) Home modifications;
 - 10 (G) Nutritional consultation;
 - 11 (H) Residential habilitation;
 - 12 (I) Respite care;
 - 13 (J) Specialized skill development, including
14 behavioral specialist, community support, and
15 systematic skill building services;
 - 16 (K) Supported employment, including extended
17 employment supports, and intensive job coaching;
 - 18 (L) Temporary supplemental services;
 - 19 (M) Therapeutic care;
 - 20 (N) Transitional work services;
 - 21 (O) Vehicle modifications; and



- 1 (P) Supportive housing;
- 2 (3) Strategies to reduce the incidence and impact of fetal
3 alcohol spectrum disorder in Hawaii that encompass the
4 areas of screening and diagnosis, prevention, health
5 promotion, and interventions that take into
6 consideration needs across the lifespan through a
7 community-wide, coordinated effort;
- 8 (4) Recommendations for a comprehensive solution through
9 community-wide initiatives and strategic planning; and
- 10 (5) Recommendations for any necessary legislation.
- 11 (c) Two or more members of the task force, but less than
12 the number of members that would constitute a quorum for the
13 task force, may discuss between themselves matters relating to
14 official business of the task force to enable members to
15 faithfully perform their duties to the task force and the
16 organizations they represent; provided that no commitment to
17 vote shall be made or sought. Such discussions shall be
18 permitted interaction under section 92-2.5, Hawaii Revised
19 Statutes.
- 20 (d) The members of the task force shall serve without
21 compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses,



1 including travel expenses, incurred for service on the task
2 force. No member of the task force shall be made subject to
3 section 84-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of that
4 member's participation on the task force.

5 (e) The task force shall convene no later than thirty days
6 after the effective date of this Act.

7 (f) The task force shall serve until it has accomplished
8 the objectives of this Act or twenty days prior to the convening
9 of the regular session of 2021, whichever occurs first.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

DOH; Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder; Task Force

Description:

Establishes a task force within the Department of Health to identify therapies and home- and community-based care services that may benefit persons having fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, including therapies and treatments that may benefit them as adults. Requires the task force to recommend any necessary policy changes, rule changes, or legislation to increase access to these therapies and services. Requires a report to the Legislature. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

