**S.B. NO.** <sup>492</sup> S.D. 1

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

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

SECTION 1. The auditor shall conduct a performance audit
of the disability determination branch of the department of
human services and present findings and recommendations to the
legislature, as appropriate.

5 SECTION 2. The audit shall include an examination of the 6 management and operations of the disability determination branch 7 of the department of human services, including but not limited 8 to the:

Methods, procedures, and criteria used by the 9 (1)10 disability determination branch to make eligibility 11 determinations, including an analysis of the rate of 12 denials for initial applications and the rates of 13 denials and approvals for those appealed applications; 14 (2) Factors contributing to the extended processing times 15 for disability eligibility applications and subsequent 16 determinations;



1

Page 2

## S.B. NO. <sup>492</sup> S.D. 1

1 (3) Internal operations at the disability determination 2 branch, specifically with respect to any management 3 policies or directives that may influence staff to 4 make eligibility determinations quickly and without 5 thorough evaluation of applications and supporting 6 documentation; and 7 (4) Actual processing times for disability eligibility 8 applications. 9 SECTION 3. The auditor shall submit to the legislature a 10 report of its findings and recommendations, including any 11 proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the 12 convening of the regular session of 2020. 13 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general 14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so 15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 to 16 conduct a performance audit of the disability determination 17 branch of the department of human services. 18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the auditor for 19 the purposes of this Act. 20 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

2

## S.B. NO. <sup>492</sup> S.D. 1

**Report Title:** DHS; Disability Determination Branch; Audit; Appropriation

**Description:** Requires the Office of the Auditor to conduct a performance audit of the Department of Human Services Disability Determination Branch. Appropriates funds. (SD1)

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