
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 when navigating the State's present system
4 of 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 with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders or their parents
8 or caregivers may 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 with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder
14 ultimately become involved with the criminal justice system.

15 The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force to:

16 (1) Identify all populations and sub-populations with
17 fetal alcohol spectrum disorders in the State who have



1 or may experience burdens in navigating and accessing
2 care services;

3 (2) Identify therapies and home- and community-based care
4 services that may benefit individuals with fetal
5 alcohol spectrum disorders;

6 (3) Identify strategies to reduce the incidence and impact
7 of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder in Hawaii; and

8 (4) Make recommendations for a comprehensive solution
9 through community-wide initiatives and strategic
10 planning, including recommendations for any necessary
11 legislation.

12 SECTION 2. (a) There is established within the behavioral
13 health services administration of the department of health a
14 task force to review best care practices for persons with fetal
15 alcohol spectrum disorders, including therapies and treatments
16 commonly needed as adults.

17 (b) The task force shall consist of:

18 (1) A representative of the behavioral health services
19 administration of the department of health;

20 (2) A representative of the developmental disabilities
21 division of the department of health;



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



1 (12) Two parent-advocates to be selected and invited to
2 participate by the speaker of the house of
3 representatives;

4 (13) Two parent-advocates to be selected and invited to
5 participate by the president of the senate; and

6 (14) 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 (c) 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 2022. The study shall include:

14 (1) Identification of all populations and sub-populations
15 having with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders in the
16 State who 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



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- 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 (d) 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. These discussions shall be
18 permitted interactions under section 92-2.5, Hawaii Revised
19 Statutes.
- 20 (e) The members of the task force shall serve without
21 compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses,



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

7 (g) 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 2022, whichever occurs first.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

11

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 25 2021



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Report Title:

Department of Health; Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder; Task Force

Description:

Establishes a task force within the department of health to identify populations and sub-populations with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) in the State who experience burdens in navigating and accessing care services; identify therapies and home and community-based care services that may benefit persons with FASD; identify strategies to reduce the incidence and impact of FASD; and make recommendations for a comprehensive solution, including necessary legislation. Requires a report to the legislature.

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