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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the coronavirus  
2 disease 2019 pandemic highlighted the need to modernize  
3 government to meet the urgent needs of the community. Further,  
4 the pandemic has highlighted the need for greater flexibility,  
5 responsiveness, transparency, and accountability in how  
6 government interfaces with and responds to the community.

7           The legislature also finds that many current structures and  
8 processes have hindered or challenged agencies in their ability  
9 to responsively, promptly, effectively, and efficiently provide  
10 government services that the public demands. Executive branch  
11 departments, particularly those at the administrative and  
12 division levels, are often hindered in modernizing and  
13 realigning their programmatic and staffing structures because of  
14 the processes required to effectuate organizational change,  
15 collectively known as a "program reorganization" or "reorg".

16           The legislature finds that program reorganization can take  
17 two years or more to complete and often is not approved until



1 long after the original intent has lapsed. Further, the  
2 legislature found during the response to the pandemic that these  
3 processes prevented expeditious staffing and proactive  
4 adjustments that were needed to quickly respond to community  
5 needs.

6 Finally, the legislature finds that time is of the essence  
7 to support attempts of the agencies to restructure and realign  
8 their programs to quickly and effectively meet the needs of the  
9 community. Further, the current economic downturn and budget  
10 shortfall facing the State necessitates significantly more  
11 flexibility and public accountability. Government programs must  
12 reorganize to more effectively manage and maximize the use of  
13 scarce resources to address the complex and growing needs of our  
14 communities.

15 The purpose of this Act is to establish a reorganization  
16 pilot project within the department of health to shift and  
17 organize the department's functions, positions, and funding to  
18 effectuate an organization that cost-effectively and more  
19 efficiently provides needed services to the public.



1 SECTION 2. (a) The department of health shall establish a  
2 two-year reorganization pilot project to reorganize the  
3 following divisions and offices within the department of health:

- 4 (1) Behavioral health services administration;
- 5 (2) Environmental health administration;
- 6 (3) General administration, including the office of the  
7 director of health; and
- 8 (4) Health resources administration.

9 (b) In reorganizing the four divisions, the department of  
10 health shall consult with the department of budget and finance  
11 and department of human resources development.

12 (c) The reorganization pilot project shall:

- 13 (1) Shift and organize the functions, positions, and  
14 funding to effectuate an organization that cost-  
15 effectively and more efficiently provides needed  
16 services to the public;
- 17 (2) Identify the processes to most efficiently and cost-  
18 effectively restructure and realign functions,  
19 staffing, and funding to meet the needs of the  
20 community; and



1           (3) Conduct an expedited reorganization, including  
2           consultation with the appropriate bargaining units,  
3           with the assistance of the department of human  
4           resources development, to address affected employees  
5           and maintain, to the extent possible, the employees'  
6           functions as reflected in their current positions and  
7           current salaries.

8           (d) No later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
9           the regular sessions of 2022, 2023, and 2024, the department of  
10          health shall submit a report to the legislature of its findings  
11          and recommendations, including any proposed legislation,  
12          regarding the pilot project.

13          (e) The reorganization pilot project shall end on June 30,  
14          2023.

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



**Report Title:**

Government; Reorganization; DOH; Behavioral Health Services Administration; Pilot Project

**Description:**

Requires the department of health to establish a reorganization pilot project to reorganize the department of health behavioral health services administration; environmental health administration; general administration, including the office of the director of health; and health resources administration. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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