A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the federal medicare
- 2 program is essential to ensuring health care coverage for older
- 3 adults and persons having disabilities in the State. However,
- 4 the rules and procedures of medicare are complex and difficult
- 5 to navigate. The legislature further finds that the Hawaii
- 6 state health insurance assistance program is a critical program
- 7 administered by the department of health executive office on
- 8 aging that assists those individuals who qualify for medicare to
- 9 navigate the program and make informed health insurance
- 10 decisions.
- 11 The state health insurance assistance program is staffed by
- 12 only two full-time employees who train a team of over eighty
- 13 dedicated volunteers to provide specialized assistance to the
- 14 public free of charge. Currently, state health insurance
- 15 assistance program employees are fully funded by federal moneys,
- 16 which could be reduced or even eliminated based on federal

S.B. NO. 2678 S.D. 2 H.D. 1

- 1 policymaking. Therefore, the legislature finds that state
- 2 support for the state health insurance assistance program would
- 3 provide stability and ensure continuity of the program.
- 4 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
- 5 state health insurance assistance program to expand the program
- 6 by:
- 7 (1) Contracting with third-party service providers and
- 8 staffing consultants; and
- 9 (2) Recruiting more volunteers.
- 10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
- 12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to
- 13 expand the Hawaii state health insurance assistance program by:
- 14 (1) Contracting with third-party service providers and
- staffing consultants; and
- 16 (2) Recruiting more volunteers.
- 17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the executive
- 18 office on aging for the purposes of this Act.
- 19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2060.

Report Title:

Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to expand the Hawaii state health insurance assistance program by contracting with third-party service providers and staffing consultants and recruiting more volunteers. Effective 7/1/2060. (HD1)

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