

JAN 21 2022

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS STABILIZATION BEDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there are gaps in
2 the State's system to treat individuals with severe behavioral
3 health needs who may not require emergency room-level crisis
4 care. One such gap is the limited number of behavioral health
5 crisis stabilization beds that use intensive case management
6 services to help stabilize these individuals.

7 As noted in a Journal of Mental Health and Clinical
8 Psychology 2018 article "Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization
9 Centers: A New Normal", there has been a promising shift in
10 resources and funding from institutionalized care to crisis
11 stabilization centers. However, the crisis stabilization center
12 approach has been underfunded and often results in individuals
13 experiencing a behavioral health crisis seeking treatment at
14 hospital emergency rooms and utilizing a great amount of health
15 care resources with short-term outcomes. Studies have shown
16 that the cost of crisis stabilization centers is significantly
17 less than emergency rooms and psychiatric inpatient units. The



1 legislature finds that the department of health is currently
2 exploring options to increase the number of behavioral health
3 crisis stabilization beds across the State and estimates that
4 the cost will be at least \$11,000,000.

5 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
6 funds to the adult mental health division of the department of
7 health to support increased behavioral health crisis
8 stabilization beds.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$5,500,000 or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
12 behavioral health crisis stabilization beds.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
14 health adult mental health division for the purposes of this
15 Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

17
INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 2735

Report Title:

Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization Beds; Department of Health; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Adult Mental Health Division of the Department of Health to support increased behavioral health crisis stabilization beds.

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