

JAN 21 2022

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DISABILITY HEALTH DISPARITY.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) The department of human services shall
2 submit to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
3 convening of the regular session of 2023, a report focused on
4 the health disparities experienced by individuals with
5 disabilities in Hawaii. The report shall include:

6 (1) A definition of Hawaii's disability population for
7 public health administration purposes, including the
8 health conditions, duration, and level of severity
9 required to qualify for disability status;

10 (2) Population-level differences in Hawaii between
11 individuals with and without disabilities on health
12 indicators and social determinants of health,
13 including:

14 (A) Access to necessary health care;

15 (B) Access to preventive health care, including
16 wellness programs and emotional support services;



- 1 (C) Health behaviors, including the percentage of
2 individuals who engage in physical activities or
3 smoke cigarettes;
- 4 (D) Health status and outcomes, including the
5 percentage of individuals who are considered
6 obese or diagnosed with chronic diseases,
7 including diabetes, hypertension, and
8 cardiovascular diseases;
- 9 (E) Emergency preparedness, including evacuation
10 planning and ability;
- 11 (F) Health insurance coverage;
- 12 (G) Social determinants of health and health
13 outcomes, including household income, employment
14 status, education level, access to health
15 information technology tools and systems, access
16 to transportation, and social and community
17 environment; and
- 18 (H) Other indicators and determinants that contribute
19 to an individual's physical and mental health;



1 (3) Factors contributing to the population-level
2 differences, including economic and social
3 disadvantages and discrimination;

4 (4) A determination of the population-level differences
5 and contributing factors that are preventable or
6 avoidable;

7 (5) Any other information that would assist the State in
8 determining safe, equitable, and culturally
9 appropriate public health actions that would improve
10 health care and address the health disparities
11 experienced by Hawaii's disability population; and

12 (6) Proposed legislation, including best practices for the
13 State to reduce the health disparities experienced by
14 Hawaii's disability population.

15 (b) For purposes of this Act, "health disparities" means
16 population-level differences in health outcomes that are related
17 to a history of social, economic, or environmental
18 disadvantages, that are avoidable and not primarily caused by
19 underlying health conditions that led to the disability.
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1 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

DK



S.B. NO. 2919

Report Title:

Disabled Individuals; Health Disparity; Health Equity;
Department of Human Services; Report

Description:

Requires the Department of Human Services to submit a report focused on the health disparities experienced by individuals with disabilities in Hawaii before Regular Session of 2023.

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