## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TITLE 24, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 431:10A-116, Hawaii Revised Statutes,

2 is amended to read as follows:

11

3 "§431:10A-116 Coverage for specific services. Every

4 person insured under a policy of accident and health or sickness

5 insurance delivered or issued for delivery in this State shall

6 be entitled to the reimbursements and coverages specified below:

7 (1) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary,

whenever a policy, contract, plan, or agreement

9 provides for reimbursement for any visual or

optometric service[ , which] that is within the lawful

scope of practice of a duly licensed optometrist, the

person entitled to benefits or the person performing

the services shall be entitled to reimbursement

14 whether the service is performed by a licensed

physician or by a licensed optometrist. Visual or

16 optometric services shall include eye or visual

17 examination, or both, or a correction of any visual or

18 muscular anomaly, and the supplying of ophthalmic

materials, lenses, contact lenses, spectacles, 1 2 eyeglasses, and appurtenances thereto; 3 Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, for all (2) 4 policies, contracts, plans, or agreements issued on or 5 after May 30, 1974, whenever provision is made for reimbursement or indemnity for any service related to 6 7 surgical or emergency procedures [, which] that is within the lawful scope of practice of any 8 9 practitioner licensed to practice medicine in this **10** State, reimbursement or indemnification under the 11 policy, contract, plan, or agreement shall not be 12 denied when the services are performed by a dentist 13 acting within the lawful scope of the dentist's 14 license; 15 Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, (3) **16** whenever the policy provides reimbursement or payment **17** for any service [, which] that is within the lawful 18 scope of practice of a psychologist licensed in this 19 State, the person entitled to benefits or performing 20 the service shall be entitled to reimbursement or 21 payment, whether the service is performed by a 22 licensed physician or licensed psychologist;

(4) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, each policy, contract, plan, or agreement issued on or after February 1, 1991, except for policies that only provide coverage for specified diseases or other limited benefit coverage, but including policies issued by companies subject to chapter 431, article 10A, part II, and chapter 432, article 1, shall provide coverage for screening by low-dose mammography for occult breast cancer as follows:

- (A) For women forty years of age and older, an annual mammogram; and
- (B) For a woman of any age with a history of breast cancer or whose mother or sister has had a history of breast cancer, a mammogram upon the recommendation of the woman's physician.

The services provided in this paragraph are subject to any coinsurance provisions that may be in force in these policies, contracts, plans, or agreements [-]; provided that the insured's dollar limits, deductibles, and copayments for services shall

#### H.B. NO. 2393

be on terms at least as favorable to the insured as those applicable to other radiological examinations.

For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "low-dose mammography" means the x-ray examination of the breast using equipment dedicated specifically for mammography, including but not limited to the x-ray tube, filter, compression device, screens, films, and cassettes, with an average radiation exposure delivery of less than one rad mid-breast, with two views for each breast. An insurer may provide the services required by this paragraph through contracts with providers; provided that the contract is determined to be a cost-effective means of delivering the services without sacrifice of quality and meets the approval of the director of health; and

(5) (A) (i) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, whenever a policy, contract, plan, or agreement provides coverage for the children of the insured, that coverage shall also extend to the date of birth of any newborn child to be adopted by the insured; provided that the insured gives written

1		notice to the insurer of the insured's
2		intent to adopt the child prior to the
3		child's date of birth or within thirty days
4		after the child's birth or within the time
5		period required for enrollment of a natural
6		born child under the policy, contract, plan,
7		or agreement of the insured, whichever
8		period is longer; provided further that if
9		the adoption proceedings are not successful,
10		the insured shall reimburse the insurer for
11		any expenses paid for the child; and
12	(ii)	Where notification has not been received by
13		the insurer prior to the child's birth or
14		within the specified period following the
15		child's birth, insurance coverage shall be
16		effective from the first day following the
17		insurer's receipt of legal notification of
18		the insured's ability to consent for
19		treatment of the infant for whom coverage is
20		sought; and

## <u>H</u>.B. NO. <u>2393</u>

1	(B) When the insured is a member of a health
2	maintenance organization, coverage of an adopted
3	newborn is effective:
4	(i) From the date of birth of the adopted
5	newborn when the newborn is treated from
6	birth pursuant to a provider contract with
7	the health maintenance organization, and
8	written notice of enrollment in accord with
9	the health maintenance organization's usual
10	enrollment process is provided within thirty
11	days of the date the insured notifies the
12	health maintenance organization of the
13	insured's intent to adopt the infant for
14	whom coverage is sought; or
15	(ii) From the first day following receipt by the
16	health maintenance organization of written
17	notice of the insured's ability to consent
18	for treatment of the infant for whom
19	coverage is sought and enrollment of the
20	adopted newborn in accord with the health
21	maintenance organization's usual enrollment
22	process if the newborn has been treated from

# <u>H</u>.B. NO.<u>2393</u>

1	birth by a provider not contracting or
2	affiliated with the health maintenance
3	organization."
4	SECTION 2. Section 432:1-605, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5	amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
6	"(b) The services provided in subsection (a) are subject
7	to any coinsurance provisions that may be in force in these
8	policies, contracts, plans, or agreements [-]; provided that the
9	member's dollar limits, deductibles, and copayments for services
10	shall be on terms at least as favorable to the member as those
11	applicable to other radiological examinations."
12	SECTION 3. Section 432E-34, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13	amended as follows:
14	1. By amending subsection (d) to read:
15	"(d) [Upon receipt of a request for appeal pursuant to
16	subsection (c), the commissioner shall review the request for
17	external review submitted by the enrollee pursuant to subsection
18	(a), determine whether an enrollee is eligible for external
19	review and, if eligible, shall refer the enrollee to external
20	review. The commissioner's determination of eligibility for
21	external review shall be made in accordance with the terms of
22	the enrollee's health benefit plan and all applicable provisions

-	of this part. If an enforce is not erigiste for entering	-
2	review, the commissioner shall notify the enrollee, the	
3	enrollee's appointed representative, and the health carrie	<del>) Y</del>
4	within three business days of the reason for ineligibility	<del>/ -</del> ]
5	(1) The commissioner may determine that a request is	3_
6	eligible for external review under subsection (k	<u>)</u>
7	notwithstanding a health carrier's initial	
8	determination that the request is ineligible and	<u>1</u>
9	require that it be referred for external review;	; and
10	(2) In making a determination under paragraph (1), t	<u>:he</u>
11	commissioner's decision shall be made in accorda	ance
12	with the terms of the enrollee's health benefit	plan
13	and shall be subject to all applicable provision	ns of
14	this chapter."	
15	2. By amending subsection (g) to read:	
16	"(g) Within five business days after the date of red	ceipt
17	of notice pursuant to subsection (e), the health carrier of	or its
18	designated utilization review organization shall provide t	o the
19	assigned independent review organization all documents and	i
20	information it considered in issuing the adverse action the	nat is
21	the subject of external review[+] and any documents relate	<u>∍d to</u>
22	the request for external review that have been received by	y the

### <u>H</u>.B. NO. <u>2393</u>

1 health carrier or its designated utilization review 2 organization. Failure by the health carrier or its utilization review organization to provide the documents and information 3 4 within five business days shall not delay the conduct of the 5 external review; provided that the assigned independent review 6 organization may terminate the external review and reverse the 7 adverse action that is the subject of the external review. 8 independent review organization shall notify the enrollee, the 9 enrollee's appointed representative, the health carrier, and the 10 commissioner within three business days of the termination of an 11 external review and reversal of an adverse action pursuant to **12** this subsection." 13 SECTION 4. Section 432E-35, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 14 amended by amending subsections (b) through (f) to read as 15 follows: 16 Upon receipt of a request for an expedited external **17** review, the commissioner shall immediately send a copy of the request to the health carrier. Immediately upon receipt of the **18** 19 request, the health carrier shall determine whether the request 20 meets the reviewability requirements set forth in [subsection 21 (a).] section 432E-34(b). The health carrier shall immediately notify the enrollee or the enrollee's appointed representative 22

## <u>H</u>.B. NO.<u>2393</u>

1 of its determination of the enrollee's eligibility for expedited external review. 2 3 Notice of ineligibility for expedited external review shall include a statement informing the enrollee and the enrollee's 4 5 appointed representative that a health carrier's initial determination that an external review request that is ineligible 6 7 for review may be appealed to the commissioner by submission of 8 a request to the commissioner. 9 [Upon receipt of a request for appeal pursuant to **10** subsection (b), the commissioner shall review the request for 11 expedited external review submitted pursuant to subsection (a) **12** and, if eligible, shall refer the enrollee for external review. **13** The commissioner's determination of eligibility for expedited 14 external review shall be made in accordance with the terms of **15** the enrollee's health benefit plan and all applicable provisions 16 of this part. If an enrollee is not eligible for expedited 17 external review, the commissioner shall immediately notify the 18 enrollee, the enrollee's appointed representative, and the health carrier of the reasons for incligibility.] 19 20 (1) The commissioner may determine that a request is 21 eligible for expedited external review under 22 subsection (b) notwithstanding a health carrier's

1		initial determination that the request is ineligible
2		and require that it be referred for external review;
3		and
4	(2)	In making a determination under paragraph (1), the
5		commissioner's decision shall be made in accordance
6		with the terms of the enrollee's health benefit plan
7		and shall be subject to all applicable provisions of
8		this chapter.
9	(d)	If the commissioner determines that an enrollee is
10	eligible f	for expedited external review [even though the enrollee
11	<del>has not ex</del>	chausted the health carrier's internal review process,
12	pursuant t	to subsection (c) and the request for expedited
13	external 1	review is based on an adverse determination as provided
14	under subs	section (a)(1), the health carrier shall not be
15	required t	to proceed with its internal review process[. The
16	health car	erier] but may elect to proceed with its internal
17	review pro	ocess [even though the request is determined by the
18	commissior	ner to be eligible for expedited external review];
19	provided t	that the internal review process shall not delay or
20	terminate	an expedited external review unless the health carrier
21	decides to	reverse its adverse determination and provide
22	coverace (	or navment for the health care service that is the

## H.B. NO.2393

subject of the adverse determination. Immediately after making 2 a decision to reverse its adverse determination, the health 3 carrier shall notify the enrollee, the enrollee's authorized representative, the independent review organization assigned 4 pursuant to subsection (e), and the commissioner in writing of 5 6 its decision. The assigned independent review organization 7 shall terminate the expedited external review upon receipt of notice from the health carrier pursuant to this subsection. 8 (e) Upon receipt of the notice pursuant to subsection (b) 9 or a determination of the commissioner pursuant to subsection **10** [<del>(d)</del>] (c) that the enrollee meets the eligibility requirements 11 for expedited external review, the commissioner shall 12 immediately randomly assign an independent review organization 13 to conduct the expedited external review from the list of 14 15 approved independent review organizations qualified to conduct 16 the external review, based on the nature of the health care service that is the subject of the adverse action and other **17** 18 factors determined by the commissioner including conflicts of **19** interest pursuant to section 432E-43, compiled and maintained by 20 the commissioner to conduct the external review and immediately notify the health carrier of the name of the assigned 21 22 independent review organization.

## H.B. NO.2393

1 Upon receipt of the notice from the commissioner of 2 the name of the independent review organization assigned to 3 conduct the expedited external review, the health carrier or its 4 designee utilization review organization shall provide or 5 transmit all documents and information it considered in making the adverse action that is the subject of the expedited external 6 review, and any documents related to the request for expedited 7 8 external review that have been received by the health carrier or 9 its designated utilization review organization, to the assigned 10 independent review organization electronically or by telephone, 11 facsimile, or any other available expeditious method." 12 SECTION 5. Section 432E-36, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 13 amended as follows: 14 1. By amending subsections (c) through (g) to read: **15** "(c) Upon notice of the request for expedited external **16** review, the health carrier shall immediately determine whether **17** the request meets the requirements of subsection [(b).] (g). **18** The health carrier shall immediately notify the commissioner, 19 the enrollee, and the enrollee's appointed representative of its eligibility determination. **20** 21 Notice of eligibility for expedited external review

pursuant to this subsection shall include a statement informing

1	the enrollee and, if applicable, the enrollee's appointed
2	representative that a health carrier's initial determination
3	that the external review request is ineligible for review may be
4	appealed to the commissioner.
5	(d) [ <del>Upon receipt of a request for appeal pursuant to</del>
6	subsection (c), the commissioner shall review the request for
7	external review submitted by the enrollee pursuant to subsection
8	(a), determine whether an enrollee is eligible for external
9	review and, if eligible, shall refer the enrollee to external
10	review. The commissioner's determination of eligibility for
11	external review shall be made in accordance with the terms of
12	the enrollee's health benefit plan and all applicable provisions
13	of this part. If an enrollee is not eligible for external
14	review, the commissioner shall notify the enrollee, the
15	enrollee's appointed representative, and the health carrier of
16	the reason for incligibility within three business days.
17	(1) The commissioner may determine that a request is
18	eligible for external review under subsection (g)
19	notwithstanding a health carrier's initial
20	determination that the request is ineligible and
21	require that it be referred for external review; and

# <u>H</u>.B. NO.<u>2393</u>

1	(2)	In making a determination under paragraph (1), the
2		commissioner's decision shall be made in accordance
3		with the terms of the enrollee's health benefit plan
4		and shall be subject to all applicable provisions of
5		this chapter.
6	(e)	Upon receipt of the notice pursuant to subsection
7	[ <del>(a)</del> ] <u>(c)</u>	or a determination of the commissioner pursuant to
8	subsection	n (d) that the enrollee meets the eligibility
9	requiremen	nts for expedited external review, the commissioner
10	shall imme	ediately randomly assign an independent review
11	organizat	ion to conduct the expedited external review from the
12	list of ap	pproved independent review organizations qualified to
13	conduct th	ne external review, based on the nature of the health
14	care serv	ice that is the subject of the adverse action and other
15	factors de	etermined by the commissioner including conflicts of
16	interest p	oursuant to section 432E-43, compiled and maintained by
17	the commis	ssioner to conduct the external review and immediately
18	notify the	e health carrier of the name of the assigned
19	independer	nt review organization.
20	(f)	Upon receipt of the notice from the commissioner of
21	the name o	of the independent review organization assigned to
22	conduct th	ne expedited external review, the health carrier or its

## <u>H</u>.B. NO.<u>2393</u>

1	designee utilization review organization shall provide or
2	transmit all documents and information it considered in making
3	the adverse action that is the subject of the expedited external
4	review, and any documents related to the request for expedited
5	external review that have been received by the health carrier or
6	its designated utilization review organization, to the assigned
7	independent review organization electronically or by telephone,
8	facsimile, or any other available expeditious method.
9	(g) Except for a request for an expedited external review
10	made pursuant to subsection (b), within three business days
11	after the date of receipt of the request, the commissioner shall
12	notify the health carrier that the enrollee has requested an
13	[expedited] external review pursuant to this section. Within
14	five business days following the date of receipt of notice, the
15	health carrier shall determine whether:
16	(1) The individual is or was an enrollee in the health
17	benefit plan at the time the health care service or
18	treatment was recommended or requested or, in the case
19	of a retrospective review, was an enrollee in the
20	health benefit plan at the time the health care
21	service or treatment was provided;

1	(2)	The	recommended or requested health care service or
2		trea	tment that is the subject of the adverse action:
3		(A)	Would be a covered benefit under the enrollee's
4			health benefit plan but for the health carrier's
5			determination that the service or treatment is
6			experimental or investigational for the
7			enrollee's particular medical condition; and
8		(B)	Is not explicitly listed as an excluded benefit
9			under the enrollee's health benefit plan;
10	(3)	The	enrollee's treating physician or treating advanced
11		prac	tice registered nurse has certified in writing
12		that	: •
13		(A)	Standard health care services or treatments have
14			not been effective in improving the condition of
15			the enrollee;
16		(B)	Standard health care services or treatments are
17			not medically appropriate for the enrollee; or
18		(C)	There is no available standard health care
19			service or treatment covered by the health
20			carrier that is more beneficial than the health
21			care service or treatment that is the subject of
22			the adverse action;

#### <u>н</u>.В. NO.<u>2393</u>

(4) The enrollee's treating physician or treating advanced practice registered nurse:

- (A) Has recommended a health care service or

  treatment that the physician or advanced practice
  registered nurse certifies, in writing, is likely
  to be more beneficial to the enrollee, in the
  physician's or advanced practice registered
  nurse's opinion, than any available standard
  health care services or treatments; or
- (B) Who is a licensed, board certified or board eligible physician qualified to practice in the area of medicine appropriate to treat the enrollee's condition, or who is an advanced practice registered nurse qualified to treat the enrollee's condition, has certified in writing that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the health care service or treatment that is the subject of the adverse action is likely to be more beneficial to the enrollee than any available standard health

1	(5)	The enrollee has exhausted the health carrier's
2		internal appeals process or the enrollee is not
3		required to exhaust the health carrier's internal
4		appeals process pursuant to section 432E-33(b); and
5	(6)	The enrollee has provided all the information and
6		forms required by the commissioner that are necessary
7		to process an external review, including the release
8		form and disclosure of conflict of interest
9		information as provided under section 432E-33(a)."
10	2. 1	By amending subsection (i) to read:
11	"(i)	[Upon receipt of a request for appeal pursuant to
12	subsection	n (h), the commissioner shall review the request for
13	external :	review submitted pursuant to subsection (a) and, if
14	<del>eligible,</del>	shall refer the enrollee for external review. The
15	commissio	ner's determination of eligibility for expedited
16	external :	review shall be made in accordance with the terms of
17	the enrol	lee's health benefit plan and all applicable provisions
18	of this pa	art. If an enrollee is not eligible for external
19	review, t	he commissioner shall notify the enrollee, the
20	enrollee'	s appointed representative, and the health carrier of
21	the reason	ns for ineligibility within three business days.

1	(1)	The commissioner may determine that a request is
2		eligible for external review under subsection (g)
3		notwithstanding a health carrier's initial
4		determination that the request is ineligible and
5		require that it be referred for external review; and
6	(2)	In making a determination under paragraph (1), the
7		commissioner's decision shall be made in accordance
8		with the terms of the enrollee's health benefit plan
9		and shall be subject to all applicable provisions of
10		this chapter."
11	3.	By amending subsection (1) to read:
12	"(1)	Within five business days after the date of receipt
13	of notice	pursuant to subsection (j), the health carrier or its
14	designate	d utilization review organization shall provide to the
15	assigned	independent review organization all documents and
16	information	on it considered in issuing the adverse action that is
17	the subject	ct of external review[-] and any documents related to
18	the reque	st for external review that have been received by the
19	health car	rrier or its designated utilization review
20	organizat	ion. Failure by the health carrier or its utilization
21	review or	ganization to provide the documents and information
22	within fi	ve business days shall not delay the conduct of the

#### H.B. NO.2393

external review; provided that the assigned independent review 2 organization may terminate the external review and reverse the adverse action that is the subject of the external review. 3 4 independent review organization shall notify the enrollee, the 5 enrollee's appointed representative, the health carrier, and the commissioner within three business days of the termination of an 6 7 external review and reversal of an adverse action pursuant to 8 this subsection." 9 4. By amending subsection (o) to read: 10 "(o) Except as provided in subsection (p), within twenty 11 days after being selected to conduct the external review, a **12** clinical reviewer shall provide an opinion to the assigned 13 independent review organization pursuant to subsection (q) 14 regarding whether the recommended or requested health care 15 service or treatment subject to an appeal pursuant to this 16 section shall be covered. **17** The clinical [4] reviewer's [4] opinion shall be in writing 18 and shall include: 19 A description of the enrollee's medical condition; (1)20 (2) A description of the indicators relevant to 21 determining whether there is sufficient evidence to 22 demonstrate that the recommended or requested health

care service or treatment is more likely than not to 1 be more beneficial to the enrollee than any available 3 standard health care services or treatments and whether the adverse risks of the recommended or 4 requested health care service or treatment would not 5 be substantially increased over those of available 6 standard health care services or treatments; 7 8 (3) A description and analysis of any medical or 9 scientific evidence, as that term is defined in 10 section 432E-1.4, considered in reaching the opinion; 11 (4)A description and analysis of any medical necessity 12 criteria defined in section 432E-1; and Information on whether the reviewer's rationale for 13 (5) 14 the opinion is based on approval of the health care 15 service or treatment by the federal Food and Drug 16 Administration for the condition or medical or **17** scientific evidence or evidence-based standards that 18 demonstrate that the expected benefits of the 19 recommended or requested health care service or treatment is likely to be more beneficial to the 20 21 enrollee than any available standard health care services or treatments and the adverse risks of the 22

Ţ	recommended or requested health care service or
2	treatment would not be substantially increased over
3	those of available standard health care services or
4	treatments."
5	5. By amending subsection (r) to read:
6	"(r) Except as provided in subsection (s), within twenty
7	days after the date it receives the opinion of the clinical
8	reviewer pursuant to subsection (o), the assigned independent
9	review organization, in accordance with subsection (t), shall
10	determine whether the health care service at issue in an
11	external review pursuant to this section shall be a covered
12	benefit and shall notify the enrollee, the enrollee's appointed
13	representative, the health carrier, and the commissioner of its
14	determination. The independent review organization shall
15	include in the notice of its decision:
16	(1) A general description of the reason for the request
17	for external review;
18	(2) The written opinion of each clinical reviewer,
19	including the recommendation of each clinical reviewer
20	as to whether the recommended or requested health care
21	service or treatment should be covered and the
22	rationale for the reviewer's recommendation;

## <u>н</u>.В. NO. <u>2393</u>

1	(3)	The date the independent review organization was
2		assigned by the commissioner to conduct the external
3		[{] review[}];
4	(4)	The date the external review was conducted;
5	(5)	The date the decision was issued;
6	(6)	The principal reason or reasons for its decision; and
7	(7)	The rationale for its decision.
8	Upon	receipt of a notice of a decision reversing the
9	adverse a	ction, the health carrier immediately shall approve
10	coverage	of the recommended or requested health care service or
11	treatment	that was the subject of the adverse action."
12	SECT	ION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13	and stric	ken. New statutory material is underscored.
14	SECT	ION 7. This Act, upon its approval, shall take effect
15	on January 1, 2025.	
16		
17		INTRODUCED BY:
18		by request  JAN 2 2 2024

#### Report Title:

Insurance; Health Insurance; External Review Procedure;
Mammography

#### Description:

Provides amendments to external review procedures to improve consistency with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Uniform Health Carrier External Review Model Act. Requires health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to cover mandated services for mammography at least as favorably as coverage for other radiological examinations.

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

#### JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT:

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

TITLE:

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TITLE 24, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES.

PURPOSE:

To more closely conform the external review provisions in chapter 432E, part IV, Hawaii Revised Statutes (Part IV) with the Uniform Health Carrier External Review Model Act (Model Act); codify a base level of coverage for existing mammography coverage mandate.

MEANS:

Amend sections 431:10A-116, 432:1-605(b), 432E-34(d) and (g), 432E-35(b) through (f), and 432E-36(c) through (g), (i), (l), (o), and (r), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

JUSTIFICATION:

Part IV of chapter 432E currently mandates that the Insurance Commissioner (Commissioner) review health carrier decisions that external review requests are not eligible for review under part IV, and provide notice of a decision within a very short time period (immediately or within three days depending on the situation), while the Model Act provides that the Commissioner has authority to determine that a request is eligible. This deviation from the Model Act interferes with Insurance Division staff's ability to perform other duties and requires the Commissioner to render decisions even where the available record is sparse or when underlying issues are inappropriate for the Commissioner to assess, especially within the context of an external review request, such as contract disputes between health carriers and providers. The burden of the existing deviation from the Model Act is additionally problematic because it potentially imposes no time limit for requesting an appeal, which mandates a definitive response from the Commissioner that a request either is or is not eligible for review within a very short time.

With respect to mammography, the existing mandates do not describe a baseline for benefits. This would give more clarity on coverage for mammography in the event of changes in federal coverage mandates.

Impact on the public: Individuals may continue to ask the Commissioner to review decisions by health carriers that external review requests are not eligible for external reviews under chapter 432E, part IV, HRS (Part IV); however, the Commissioner would not be obligated to render a yes or no decision immediately or within three business days. A base level of coverage for mammography services covered by health plans would be established.

Impact on the department and other agencies:
This bill would permit the Commissioner to
not render decisions under Part IV in
situations where it is inappropriate, such
as when the record is sparse or when a Part
IV dispute is ancillary to a dispute that
the Commissioner should not be adjudicating.
It would also relieve Insurance Division
staff from neglecting other duties during
Part IV requests to review health carrier
external review eligibility determinations
and provide the Insurance Division with more
clarity on coverage for mammography in the
event of changes in federal coverage
mandates.

GENERAL FUNDS:

None.

OTHER FUNDS:

None.

PPBS PROGRAM DESIGNATION:

CCA-106.

OTHER AFFECTED

AGENCIES:

None.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

January 1, 2025.