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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A PILOT PROGRAM TO FILL VACANCIES.

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

1           SECTION 1. (a) There is established a behavioral health  
2 exempt employee pilot program, to be administered by the  
3 department of health. The program shall commence on July 1,  
4 2024, and end on June 30, 2029.

5           (b) Under the pilot program, notwithstanding any law to  
6 the contrary, the department of health may fill civil service  
7 position vacancies in the department's behavioral health  
8 services administration in a manner that is exempt from chapter  
9 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes. While being employed on a civil  
10 service exempt bases the employee hired pursuant to the pilot  
11 program shall be concurrently considered for employment as a  
12 civil service employee pursuant to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised  
13 Statutes. If an employee hired pursuant to the pilot program is  
14 subsequently found to ineligible for employment as a civil  
15 service employee pursuant to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised  
16 Statutes, the department shall terminate the employee's  
17 employment.



1 (c) No later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
2 each regular session from 2025 through 2030, the department of  
3 health shall submit to the legislature a report, which shall  
4 include, at minimum:

- 5 (1) Information on the progress of the program;
- 6 (2) Funding needs of the program; and
- 7 (3) Any proposed legislation, including legislation to  
8 facilitate the filling of employee vacancies in the  
9 department's behavioral health services  
10 administration.

11 SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII, of  
12 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and  
13 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined  
14 that the appropriation contained in this Act will cause the  
15 state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025  
16 to be exceeded by \$ , or per cent. The reasons  
17 for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that the  
18 appropriation made in this Act is necessary to serve the public  
19 interest and to meet the needs provided for by this Act.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



# H.B. NO. 2529

1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for  
2 the behavioral health exempt employee pilot program established  
3 by this Act.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
5 health for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
7 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

8

INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



JAN 23 2024



# H.B. NO. 2529

**Report Title:**

DOH; Behavioral Health; Employees; Civil Service; Pilot Program;  
General Fund Expenditure Ceiling Exceeded

**Description:**

Establishes a 5-year behavioral health exempt employee pilot program, to be administered by the Department of Health, under which the Department may fill employee vacancies in the Department's Behavioral Health Services Administration in a manner that is exempt from chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling will be exceeded for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

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

