

JAN 31 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES MED-QUEST DIVISION
TO COVER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN IN
SCHOOL-BASED SETTINGS.

1 WHEREAS, Medicaid coverage is essential to ensuring that
2 children and adolescents have equitable access to quality
3 healthcare; and
4

5 WHEREAS, there is a worsening mental health crisis among
6 children and adolescents; and
7

8 WHEREAS, school-based behavioral health services can
9 improve access to care and allow for early identification and
10 treatment of mental health issues; and
11

12 WHEREAS, school-based behavioral health services have been
13 associated with positive outcomes, especially for children at
14 increased risk for poor mental health; and
15

16 WHEREAS, making behavioral health services available in
17 school-based settings increases access to those services by
18 reducing transportation and geographic barriers, as well as
19 easing caregiver burdens by eliminating the need for parents or
20 guardians to take time off from work; and
21

22 WHEREAS, although schools can be the setting for and
23 providers of Medicaid-covered services, the Med-QUEST Division
24 of the Department of Human Services has the leading role in
25 determining which services are covered by Medicaid when
26 furnished in or by schools and how school-based providers are
27 paid; now, therefore,
28

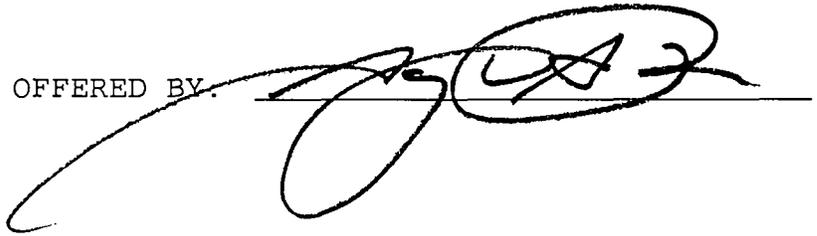
29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,
31 that the Department of Human Services Med-QUEST Division is
32 requested to cover behavioral health services for children and
33 adolescents in school-based settings; and
34



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
3 Director of Human Services, Chairperson of the Board of
4 Education, Superintendent of Education, Director of Health,
5 Administrator of the Med-QUEST Division, Deputy Director of
6 Behavioral Health, and Administrator of the Child and Adolescent
7 Mental Health Division.

8
9
10

OFFERED BY.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink is written over a horizontal line. The signature is highly cursive and difficult to decipher, but it appears to contain the letters 'G' and 'A'.