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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4        **§346-**    **Medicaid buy-in program for workers with**  
5    **disabilities.**    (a)    The department shall adopt the option made  
6    available under section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII) of the Social  
7    Security Act.

8        (b)    To be eligible for benefits under this section, an  
9    individual shall:

10        (1)    Have a net countable income greater than two hundred  
11    fifty per cent of the federal poverty level for one  
12    person or, if the deeming of spousal income applies to  
13    the individual, the individual shall have a net  
14    countable income greater than two hundred fifty per  
15    cent of the federal poverty level for two persons;  
16        (2)    Be disabled under title II or XVI or section 1902(v)  
17    of the Social Security Act; provided that an



1           individual shall be determined to be eligible under  
2           this section without regard to the individual's  
3           ability to engage in, or actual engagement in,  
4           substantial gainful activity, as defined in section  
5           223(d)(4) of the Social Security Act; and  
6           (3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, have net  
7           nonexempt resources, which shall be determined in  
8           accordance with the methodology used under title XVI  
9           of the Social Security Act, that are not in excess of  
10           the limits provided for under those provisions.

11           Countable income shall be determined under section 1612 of  
12           the Social Security Act, except that the individual's disability  
13           income, including all federal and state disability benefits and  
14           private disability insurance, shall be exempted. Resources  
15           excluded under section 1613 of the Social Security Act shall be  
16           disregarded.

17           Resources in the form of employer or individual retirement  
18           arrangements authorized under the Internal Revenue Code shall be  
19           exempted as authorized by section 1902(r) of the Social Security  
20           Act.



1       (c) Individuals eligible for benefits under this section  
2       shall be subject to the payment of premiums determined under  
3       this subsection. The department shall:

4           (1) Establish sliding-scale premiums that are based on  
5        countable income, with a minimum premium of \$20 per  
6       month and a maximum premium of \$250 per month; and  
7           (2) By rule, annually adjust the premiums; provided that  
8        before adjustment of any premiums determined pursuant  
9       to this paragraph, the department shall submit a  
10      report of proposed premium adjustments to the  
11      legislature no later than twenty days before the  
12      convening of each regular session.

13       (d) To implement the collection of premiums under this  
14      section, the department may:

15           (1) Develop and execute a contract with a public or  
16        private entity to collect premiums; or  
17           (2) Amend any existing or future premium-collection  
18       contract that it has executed.

19       (e) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to  
20      chapter 91 necessary for the purposes of this section, including  
21      specifying the process for discontinuance of eligibility under



1 this section for nonpayment of premiums for more than two months  
2 by a beneficiary.

3 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this  
4 section shall be implemented only if, and to the extent that,  
5 the department determines that federal financial participation  
6 is available pursuant to title XIX of the Social Security Act."

7 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 28 2026



# H.B. NO. 2487

**Report Title:**

DHS; Workers with Disabilities; Medicaid; Buy-In Program; Rules

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Human Services to establish a Medicaid buy-in program for workers with disabilities. Requires the Department to adopt rules.

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

