

JAN 28 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEDICINE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that proton therapy is a
2 type of radiotherapy cancer treatment that delivers high doses
3 of radiation directly to a tumor, sparing nearby healthy tissue.
4 According to the Mayo Clinic, this pinpoint accuracy makes
5 proton therapy more suitable for treating pediatric cancers than
6 conventional x-ray-based radiation, as precise delivery reduces
7 the risk of long-term side-effects, like hormone depletion and
8 infertility. A 2025 study from MD Anderson Cancer Center also
9 confirmed similar advantages over conventional radiation with
10 adult cancer patients, conclusively reporting higher standards
11 of life and a higher survival rate for patients treated with
12 proton therapy.

13 The legislature further finds that twenty-three other
14 states and the District of Columbia have purchased and
15 maintained proton therapy machines for the benefit of their
16 residents. University of Pennsylvania's Roberts Proton Therapy
17 Center in Philadelphia is one of the leading centers in the



1 United States, treating numerous patients each day with proton
2 therapy.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to offer proton
4 therapy for all residents of the State by appropriating funds
5 for the university of Hawai'i at Manoa John A. Burns School of
6 Medicine to purchase a single-room proton therapy system or to
7 contract with a third party or third parties in the private
8 sector to purchase and operate a single-room proton therapy
9 system.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000,000 or so
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for
13 the purchase and installation of a single-room proton therapy
14 system at the university of Hawai'i at Manoa John A. Burns School
15 of Medicine or at the location of a contracted third party in
16 the private sector; provided that the proton therapy system
17 shall be available to all residents of the State.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the university of
19 Hawai'i for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

2

INTRODUCED BY: Karl Rhoads



S.B. NO. 3210

Report Title:

UH; JABSOM; Proton Therapy; Private Sector; Third-Party Contract; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine to purchase, or to contract with a third party or third parties in the private sector to purchase and operate, a single-room proton therapy system; provided that the system shall be available to all residents of the State.

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