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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD.

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

1           SECTION 1. The disability and communication access board  
2 shall conduct a study of the communication needs of individuals  
3 who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind in health care  
4 settings. The study shall include consideration of:

5           (1) The availability in the State of sign language  
6           interpreters, tactile interpreters, and other services  
7           and auxiliary aids that serve the needs of the State's  
8           deaf, hard-of-hearing, and deaf-blind communities;

9           (2) The patients' preferences;

10          (3) Any special communication needs of in-patients in  
11          hospitals and skilled nursing facilities who are deaf,  
12          hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind;

13          (4) The legal duty for health care providers to provide  
14          patients who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind  
15          with auxiliary aids and services, including qualified  
16          sign language interpreters, to ensure effective  
17          communication; and



1 (5) Any recommended revisions to the current guidance for  
2 health care providers to ensure effective  
3 communication that better addresses the needs of  
4 patients who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind.

5 SECTION 2. The disability and communication access board  
6 shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
7 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later  
8 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session  
9 of 2027.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

DCAB; Study; Deaf; Hard-of-Hearing; Deaf-Blind; Effective  
Communication in Health Care Guidance; Report

**Description:**

Requires the Disability and Communication Access Board to study the health care communication needs of patients who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind. Requires a report to the Legislature twenty days prior to the 2027 Regular Session. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

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

