
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State has
2 several tools and programs to assist individuals who have
3 untreated severe mental illnesses, including court-ordered plans
4 of treatment, known in Hawaii as assisted community treatment
5 orders; involuntary commitments to the state hospital or a
6 similar facility; court-ordered medication; and department of
7 health crises programs. The legislature further finds that
8 there are areas for improvement in these programs, especially as
9 available resources and needs change over time.

10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to update and
11 clarify laws governing mental crisis intervention by:

12 (1) Requiring the department of health, or another
13 department or contracted service provider, to review
14 reports of a person having severe mental illness who
15 needs assistance; assess whether the person fulfills
16 the criteria for assisted community treatment; and, if



- 1 the person meets the criteria, coordinate the process
2 for an assisted community treatment order;
- 3 (2) Requiring the director of law enforcement to adopt
4 rules establishing training and certification
5 standards and procedures for crisis intervention
6 officers and requiring the department of health to
7 approve the content of such training;
- 8 (3) Establishing that a court's denial of a petition for
9 involuntary commitment shall serve as notification to
10 the department of health that the person who was the
11 subject of the petition should be evaluated for
12 assisted community treatment;
- 13 (4) Clarifying the scope of treatment allowable under
14 orders for assisted community treatment; and
- 15 (5) Requiring the department of the attorney general to
16 assist with the preparation, filing, and presentation
17 of any request for a court or administrative order
18 authorizing treatment over the objection of certain
19 patients.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 334, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to part VIII to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 **"§334- Department response to crisis reports. (a)**
5 When the department receives credible information that a person
6 with a severe mental illness requires assistance, the department
7 shall dispatch staff to assist the person. The department may
8 coordinate the response with other departments or private
9 service providers as necessary. This requirement shall apply to
10 communications received by any means by which the public may
11 contact the department, including through a department hotline,
12 crisis line, or other means, and shall apply to communications
13 received through department-contracted service providers.

14 (b) While assisting a person pursuant to subsection (a),
15 the department staff or responder from another department or
16 private service provider coordinating with the department shall
17 assess whether the person meets the criteria for assisted
18 community treatment pursuant to section 334-121. If, upon
19 assessment, the department reasonably believes that the person
20 meets the criteria for assisted community treatment, the
21 department shall coordinate:



1 (1) Completion of an examination pursuant to
2 section 334-121.5;

3 (2) Preparation of a certificate as specified by
4 subsection 334-123(c); and

5 (3) Filing, with assistance from the department of the
6 attorney general, a petition for an assisted community
7 treatment order pursuant to section 334-123;

8 provided that the certificate and petition shall not be required
9 if an assisted community treatment order is not indicated by the
10 examination; provided further that the examination, certificate
11 preparation, and filing of the petition may be completed by the
12 department or by another department or private service provider
13 coordinating with the department pursuant to subsection (a), in
14 which case the department shall not be required to be the
15 petitioner.

16 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b), if the department is
17 unable to coordinate the process for an assisted community
18 treatment order, the department may notify another mental health
19 program for the coordination of care in the community for the
20 person.



1 (d) The department may contract with a service provider to
2 fulfill the requirements of this section."

3 SECTION 3. Chapter 353C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
5 and to read as follows:

6 "§353C- Crisis intervention officers; training and
7 certification standards and procedures; approval. The director,
8 without regard to chapter 91, shall adopt rules setting forth
9 statewide training and certification standards and procedures
10 for a crisis intervention officer. The department of health
11 shall approve the content of training for crisis intervention
12 officers established pursuant to this section."

13 SECTION 4. Section 334-60.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by amending subsection (i) to read as follows:

15 "(i) If after hearing all relevant evidence, including the
16 result of any diagnostic examination ordered by the court, the
17 court finds that an individual is not a person requiring
18 medical, psychiatric, psychological, or other rehabilitative
19 treatment or supervision, the court shall order that the
20 individual be discharged if the individual has been hospitalized
21 prior to the hearing. Within twenty-four hours of the denial of



1 a petition for involuntary commitment, the court shall provide
2 notice to the department of the petition's denial, which shall
3 serve as notification to the department that the subject of the
4 petition should be assessed for assisted community treatment.
5 If, upon assessment, the department reasonably believes the
6 subject of the petition meets the criteria for assisted
7 community treatment, the department shall coordinate the
8 completion of an evaluation, preparation of a certificate, and
9 filing of a petition pursuant to section 334- (b)."

10 SECTION 5. Section 334-122, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended by amending the definition of "assisted community
12 treatment" to read as follows:

13 ""Assisted community treatment" [~~includes medication~~
14 ~~specifically authorized by court order; individual~~] means the
15 categories of treatment and services ordered by the court in a
16 treatment plan pursuant to section 334-127(b). "Assisted
17 community treatment" includes a case management plan and case
18 management services to provide care coordination under the
19 supervision of an assisted community treatment provider. The
20 categories of treatment and services may include:

21 (1) Medication;



- 1 (2) Periodic blood tests or urinalysis to monitor
- 2 compliance with prescribed medication;
- 3 (3) Individual or group therapy; [~~day~~]
- 4 (4) Day or partial day programming activities; [~~services~~]
- 5 (5) Services and training, including educational and
- 6 vocational activities; [~~supervision~~]
- 7 (6) Supervision of living arrangements;
- 8 (7) Residential services;
- 9 (8) Alcohol and substance abuse treatment and counseling;
- 10 (9) Periodic blood tests or urinalysis for the presence of
- 11 alcohol or illegal drugs for individuals with a
- 12 history of alcohol or substance abuse; and [~~any~~]
- 13 (10) Any other services prescribed to either alleviate the
- 14 subject of the order's disorder or disability,
- 15 maintain or maximize semi-independent functioning, or
- 16 prevent further deterioration that may reasonably be
- 17 predicted to result in the need for hospitalization or
- 18 more intensive or restrictive levels of care in the
- 19 community or incarceration for criminal behavior."

20 SECTION 6. Section 334-161, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is

21 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:



1 "~~(b) [For the purposes of this section, "imminently~~
2 ~~dangerous to self or others"~~ means that, ~~without intervention,~~
3 ~~the person will likely become dangerous to self or dangerous to~~
4 ~~others within the next forty-five days.]~~ The department of the
5 attorney general shall assist with the preparation and filing of
6 any request for authorization to provide treatment over a
7 patient's objection, whether submitted through an administrative
8 process or to a court, and shall assist with the presentation of
9 the case at any related court proceedings; provided that if the
10 requestor is a private provider or other private individual, the
11 requestor may decline the assistance."

12 SECTION 7. Section 353C-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending the definition of "crisis intervention
14 officer" to read as follows:

15 ""Crisis intervention officer" means a law enforcement
16 officer, as defined in section 139-1, who has been trained and
17 certified to recognize and communicate with an individual who is
18 in crisis or suffering from some form of impairment, whether
19 from dementia, Alzheimer's disease, or any physical,
20 developmental, cognitive, psychological, or substance use
21 disorder influencing their behavior. ~~[Training and~~



1 ~~certification standards shall be determined with the department~~
2 ~~of health.]"~~

3 SECTION 8. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
4 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
5 begun before its effective date.

6 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on December 31,
9 2050.



Report Title:

DOH; DLE; Mental Health; Assisted Community Treatment; Crisis Intervention Officers; Emergency Examination and Hospitalization; Administration of Treatment Over the Patient's Objection

Description:

Requires the Department of Health to respond to reports of persons with severe mental illness who need assistance, assess whether they meet criteria for assisted community treatment, and coordinate the assisted community treatment order process when appropriate. Provides that denial of a petition for involuntary commitment serves as notice to DOH to evaluate the individual for assisted community treatment. Requires the Director of Law Enforcement to adopt rules establishing training and certification standards and procedures for crisis intervention officers. Requires the Department of Health to approve the content of such training. Clarifies the scope of treatment permitted under assisted community treatment orders. Requires the Department of the Attorney General to assist with the preparation, filing, and presentation of requests for a court or administrative order to provide treatment over a patient's objection. Effective 12/31/2050. (HD1)

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

