

ACT 296

S.B. NO. 3088

A Bill for an Act Relating to Human Services.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. Section 346-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

**“§346-14 Duties generally.** Except as otherwise provided by law, the department of human services shall:

- (1) Administer, establish programs and standards, and [promulgate] adopt rules as deemed necessary for all public assistance programs;
- (2) Establish, extend, and strengthen services for the protection and care of neglected children and children in danger of becoming delinquent;
- (3) Assist in preventing family breakdown;
- (4) Place, or cooperate in placing neglected children in suitable private homes or institutions, and place, or cooperate in placing, children in suitable adoptive homes;
- (5) Have authority to establish, maintain, and operate receiving homes for the temporary care and custody of neglected children until suitable plans are made for their care; and accept from the police and other agencies, for temporary care and custody, any neglected child until satisfactory plans are made for the child;
- (6) Administer the medical assistance programs for eligible public welfare and other medically needy individuals by establishing standards, eligibility, and health care participation rules, payment methodologies, reimbursement allowances, systems to monitor recipient and provider compliance, and assuring compliance with federal requirements in order to maximize federal financial participation;

- (7) Cooperate with the federal government in carrying out the purposes of the Social Security Act, and in other matters of mutual concern pertaining to public welfare, public assistance, and child welfare services, including the making of such reports, the adoption of such methods of administration, and the making of such rules as are found by the federal government, or any properly constituted authority thereunder, to be necessary or desirable for the efficient operation of the plans for such public welfare, assistance, and child welfare services, or as may be necessary or desirable for the receipt of financial assistance from the federal government;
- (8) Carry on research and compile statistics relative to public and private welfare activities throughout the State, including those dealing with dependence, defectiveness, delinquency, and related problems;
- (9) Develop plans in cooperation with other public and private agencies for the prevention and treatment of conditions giving rise to public welfare problems;
- (10) Make such rules governing the procedure in hearings, investigations, recording, registration, determination of allowances, and accounting, and conduct such other activities as may be necessary or proper to carry out this chapter, which rules, when approved by the governor, shall have the force and effect of law;
- (11) Supervise or administer any other activities authorized or required by this chapter, including the development of the staff of the department through in-service training and educational leave to attend schools and other appropriate measures, and any other activities placed under the jurisdiction of the department by any other law;
- (12) Make, prescribe, and enforce such policies and rules governing the activities provided for in section 346-31 as it deems advisable, including the allocation of moneys available for assistance to persons assigned to work projects among the several counties or to particular projects where such apportionment has not been made pursuant to other provisions of law, if any, governing expenditures of the funds, which rules, when approved by the governor, shall have the force and effect of law;
- (13) Determine the appropriate level for the Hawaii security net by developing a tracking and monitoring system to determine what segments of the population are not able to afford the basic necessities of life, and advise the legislature annually regarding the resources required to maintain the security net at the appropriate level[.]; and
- (14) Subject to the appropriation of state funds and availability of federal matching assistance, expand optional health care to low-income persons as follows: pregnant women, children, elderly persons, aliens, the homeless, and other handicapped and medically needy persons."

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,564,312, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1988-1989, to expand optional health care to low-income persons as follows: pregnant women, children, elderly persons, aliens, the homeless, and other handicapped and medically needy persons. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of human services for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1988.

**ACT 296**

(Approved June 13, 1988.)