

ACT 6

H.B. NO. 2859

A Bill for an Act Making an Emergency Appropriation for the Department of Health Adult Mental Health Division.

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

SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for immediate passage in accordance with section 9 of article VII of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

SECTION 2. Although funds were appropriated to the department of health, adult mental health division, for the period beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1998, a need for further funding exists based on a November 1997 review of services by the United States Department of Justice and the independent consulting firm, Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc. Pursuant to the June 28, 1996, Stipulation and Order in Civil No. 91-00137-DAE, it is necessary to develop an expanded outpatient community mental health infrastructure to:

- (1) Facilitate discharge planning;
- (2) Facilitate the discharge of patients from the Hawaii State hospital; and
- (3) Provide alternatives to hospitalization.

The department of health, adult mental health division, is authorized to deposit revenue from collections into the mental health and substance abuse special fund, and to fund community mental health services from this fund. The current annual expenditure limit was budgeted and authorized at \$864,146. Presently, deposits to the special fund exceed the authorized expenditure limit.

The purpose of this Act is to increase the authorized expenditure limit for the mental health and substance abuse special fund for fiscal year 1997-1998 to develop and provide necessary community-based services for discharged patients of the Hawaii State hospital.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the mental health and substance abuse special fund the additional sum of \$455,045 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1997-1998 to be used for community-based services for adults with serious mental illnesses.

SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of health for purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 7, 1998.)