

ACT 23

S.B. NO. 423

A Bill for an Act Relating to Health.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature has historically recognized the importance of making medicaid coverage available for the State's most vulnerable populations, and has acted to ensure that health care payments made with state funds or controlled by the State are sufficient to cover the actual costs of the care provided. Through the continued efforts of Hawaii's congressional delegation, a federal medicaid disproportionate share hospital appropriation of \$12,500,000 has been secured for Hawaii. These funds cannot be expended without a matching state appropriation. Together, the combined state and federal funding will help to provide continuing health care in our communities.

The purpose of this Act is to meet rising health care costs and ensure that Hawaii's residents have continued access to quality health care by appropriating state funds to maximize the availability of the federal disproportionate share hospital allowance.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$12,291,054 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 to match the federal disproportionate share hospital allowance allocated to the State; provided that some appropriated funds may be used to obtain matching federal disproportionate share hospital allowance for prior fiscal year expenditures by the State.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of human services for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2009.

(Vetoed by Governor and veto overridden by Legislature on July 15, 2009.)