

ACT 127

S.B. NO. 2857

A Bill for an Act Relating to Child Wellness.

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

SECTION 1. (a) There is established a five-year child wellness incentive pilot program within the department of human services to ensure the health of children in Hawaii, including early detection of potential illnesses.

(b) The pilot program shall pay \$50 to each state medicaid benefit recipient for each completed well-child examination of that recipient parent's child; provided that only one payment may be made per child each year.

(c) The department of human services shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to carry out the purpose of this Act, including the schedule of routine well-child examinations and the process by which recipient parents may apply for program payments.

(d) The department of human services shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, regarding the child wellness incentive pilot program to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2027. The report shall include the effect of the pilot program on the number of well-child examinations performed for children of state medicaid benefit recipients and a recommendation of whether the pilot program should be continued, modified, or terminated.

(e) For the purposes of this Act:

“Child” means an unmarried individual who is under eighteen years of age. “Child” includes a stepchild and an adopted child.

“Pilot program” means the five-year child wellness incentive pilot program established by this Act.

“Well-child examination” means a routine examination of a child performed by a licensed health care professional as part of preventive pediatric care that includes a review of the child's family-centered health history; a physical examination; immunizations; a vision and hearing screening; a developmental and behavioral assessment; an oral health risk assessment; a social assessment; parenting education on a range of topics; and care coordination, as needed. “Well-child examination” includes well-child visits, well-care visits, and well-care checkups.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$4,516,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to establish, implement, and operate the child wellness incentive pilot program.

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, 2022, and shall be repealed on June 30, 2027.

(Approved June 27, 2022.)