



LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE 2013

* Indicates bills that were enacted.

STATE ISSUES

Priority - Support

- (1) **Ambulance.** Appropriate funds to improve ambulance service in Ewa and Maalaea.

[HB 362 \(Ewa\)](#)

[SB 1254 \(Ewa\)](#)

[HB 363 \(Ewa facility\)](#)

[SB 1255 \(Ewa facility\)](#)

*[HB 200](#) (Ewa appropriation is included in the executive budget bill)

[HB 379 \(Maalaea\)](#)

*[SB 498 \(Maalaea\)](#)

- (2) **Apology.** Expand the types of expressions that may be made by health care providers about unanticipated outcomes of medical care that are excluded from medical liability lawsuits.

[HB 650](#)

[SB 1308](#)

- (3) **Health care worker protection.** Increase penalties for violence and threats of violence against health care workers in all settings instead of only emergency departments.

[HB 655](#)

[SB 657](#)

- (4) **Home care licensing appropriation.** Appropriate funds to pay for the initial administrative costs of licensing of home care agencies. After the initial funding, revenue from licensing fees will pay for future administrative costs.

[SB 137](#)

- (5) **Primary care.** Appropriate funds to expand the delivery of primary care in Hawaii.
- [*HB 417](#)
[SB 664](#)
[HB1383](#)
[SB 665](#)
- (6) **Quality standards facilitation.** Create a “safe harbor” that protects providers, insurers, and other health care organizations from liability when developing standards designed to improve the quality of health care.
- [*HB 656](#)
[SB 1241](#)
[SB 344](#)
- (7) **Rural hospital designation.** Adopt a State definition of “rural” so that Kahuku Medical Center can continue to be designated as a critical access hospital.
- [*SB 1336 \(Kahuku\)](#)
[*SB 1339 \(Definition\)](#)
- (8) **Sustainability – Hospital.** Extend the sunset for the hospital sustainability bill beyond the existing sunset of June 30, 2013 if the program remains in a form that is acceptable to HAH hospital members.
- [*HB 879](#)
[SB 1110](#)
[SB 936](#)
- (9) **Sustainability – Hospital appropriation.** Make an emergency appropriation from the hospital sustainability special fund to enable the program to operate as envisioned.
- [HB 871](#)
[*SB 1102](#)
- (10) **Sustainability – Nursing Facility.** Extend the sunset for the nursing facility sustainability program beyond the existing sunset of June 30, 2013 if the program remains in a form that is acceptable to HAH nursing facility members.
- [*HB 880](#)
[SB 1111](#)
[SB 1237](#)
- (11) **Sustainability – Nursing Facility appropriation.** Make an emergency appropriation from the nursing facility special fund to enable the program to operate as envisioned.
- [*HB 872](#)
[SB 1103](#)

- (12) **Workers' comp.** Creates a mechanism to increase workers' compensation insurance reimbursements, which are below the actual costs of care.

[*HB 152](#)

Priority - Concerns

- (13) **Emergency services patient advocate.** Establish an emergency services patient advocate program. Concerns were raised about the program resulting in inappropriate care.

[SB 666](#)

- (14) **Infant mortality reduction program.** Establish an infant mortality reduction program. Concerns were raised about particular provisions of the program.

[HB 909](#)

Support

- (15) **APRN reso.** Requests collaboration among various State agencies to identify barriers to APRNs practicing to the full extent of their education and training.

[*SCR 66](#)

[*HCR 53](#)

[*HR 35](#)

- (16) **APRN scope.** Allow nurses with Doctorate degrees to be licensed as APRNs. Currently only those with Master's degrees may be licensed.

[*HB 79](#)

[SB 198](#)

- (17) **COFA reso.** Urges Congress to designate migrants from Compact of Free Association nations as "qualified aliens" so they qualify for matching federal Medicaid funding.

[*SCR 108](#)

[*SR 74](#)

- (18) **Elder care.** Support a range of activities that help to care for the fragile and disabled elderly in their homes.

[HB 4](#)

[*SB 106](#)

[HB 1432 \(Aging and Disability Resource Centers\)](#)

- (19) **Emergency contraception.** Require hospitals to offer emergency contraception to victims of sexual assault.

[*HB 411](#)

[SB 1109](#)

- (20) **Emergency management.** Transfer certain emergency management functions from the State level to the various counties.

[HB 849](#)

- (21) **Grants.** Appropriate funds for grants to HAH member organizations.

[SB 761 \(North Hawaii\)](#)

- (22) **Helmets.** Create tax incentives for motorcycle and motors scooter riders to wear helmets.

[SB 484](#)

- (23) **Medicaid eligibility workers.** Appropriate funds for additional Medicaid eligibility workers.

[HB 987](#)

- (24) **Nurse survey.** Facilitate the process for nurses to complete the survey of the Hawaii Center for Nursing in order to generate workforce data.

[HB 654](#)

[SB 490](#)

- (25) **Physician student loan repayment.** Appropriate funds for the bill passed last year that created, but did not fund, The Hawaii Health Corps, a loan forgiveness program for physicians and physician extenders who practice in shortage areas in Hawaii.

[SB 662](#)

- (26) **Pickup trucks.** Prohibit all people from riding in the beds of pickup trucks. (Current law applies only to children under 12 years of age.)

[SB 692](#)

- (27) **Seatbelts.** Require all passengers on motor vehicles to wear seatbelts.

[*SB 4](#)

- (28) **SPRB.** Authorize special purpose revenue bonds for HAH member organizations.

[*HB 653 \(HPH\)](#)

[SB 661 \(HPH\)](#)

- (29) **Stroke classification.** Create an infrastructure for the classification of stroke hospitals.

[HB 1482](#)

[SB 1348](#)

- (30) **Stroke reso.** Create a task force to implement a stroke system of care in Hawaii.

[*SCR 155](#)

[*SR 113](#)

- (31) **Sugar-sweetened beverages.** Charge a fee or tax on sugar-sweetened beverages.

[HB 854](#)

[SB 1085](#)

[SB 646](#)

- (32) **Uninsured.** Appropriate funds to help pay for health care for the uninsured.

(No bills.)

Oppose

- (33) **Nurse staffing.** (A) Establish nurse-to-patient ratios and other staffing requirements in law; or (B) Require each hospital to create a nurse staffing committee to develop a nurse staffing plan.

(No bills.)

- (34) **Opioids.** Prohibit emergency departments from prescribing long-acting opioids.

[SB 650](#)

FEDERAL ISSUES

- (35) **Behavioral health EHR.** Support the *Behavioral Health Information Technology Act of 2102* to extend the incentives for the “meaningful use” of electronic health records to mental health treatment facilities and professionals.

- (36) **COFA.** Support the *Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Health Data Act* to gather data justifying an increase in federal funding for Medicaid and other State programs that benefit COFA migrants.

- (37) **Home health authorization.** Support the *Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act* to allow NPs, APRNs, and PAs to order Medicare home health services.

- (38) **Hospice support.** Support the *Hospice Evaluation and Legitimate Payment (HELP) Act* to initiate payment reform, increase the frequency of surveying, and refine Medicare qualifications for hospice care.

- (39) **Medicare DME.** Support a market pricing approach for the DME competitive bidding process in order to preserve quality care for patients

- (40) **Medicare reimbursements.** Maintain the current level of Medicare reimbursements, especially as Congress deals with sequestration.