
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A LONG-TERM CARE RESOURCE INITIATIVE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that helping the elderly
2 to stay in their homes as they age reduces their admission to
3 costly institutional or residential long-term care facilities.
4 Hawaii is at the cusp of significant demographic changes over
5 the next decade. Currently, the State's population of
6 individuals over sixty-five years of age is increasing at a rate
7 of two to three times the national average. However, the number
8 of nursing home beds available is not even fifty per cent of the
9 national average, and Hawaii's home and community-based
10 infrastructure does not adequately meet Hawaii's chronic care
11 management needs. Infrastructure must be expanded to
12 accommodate a broader range of home and community-based long-
13 term care options for the rapidly growing elderly population.

14 A critical element for the expansion of home and community-
15 based long-term care options is the development of an adequate
16 long-term care workforce. Three components are associated with
17 a workforce development strategy that places an emphasis on
18 expanding affordable care options for the elderly:



- 1 (1) The paraprofessional worker: the Department of Labor
2 projects rapid rates of growth for various types of
3 entry-level paraprofessional healthcare workers. A
4 forty per cent growth in the number of home health
5 aides is expected from 2000 to 2010. The State will
6 need to expand its capacity to meet these needs by
7 improving its training capacity to meet both
8 quantitative and qualitative demands for its home and
9 community-based long-term care workforce;
- 10 (2) Family caregivers: Hawaii's citizens need to become
11 better prepared to become family caregivers. Family
12 caregivers will represent a significant segment of the
13 home-based workforce. Few people plan for this and
14 thus find themselves thrust into becoming caregivers
15 with little preparation or planning. Family caregiver
16 education and training is the most commonly expressed
17 need at all levels of the caregiving spectrum; and
- 18 (3) Active aging of the elderly: active aging can be
19 promoted by shifting the view of the elderly as being
20 dependent to viewing them as a productive and viable
21 asset to society.



1 Expanding the capacity to train and educate the paraprofessional
2 healthcare workforce, improving the means to train and support
3 family caregivers, and harnessing the productivity of the
4 elderly themselves will have a positive effect toward broadening
5 affordable community and home care options and the workforce for
6 long-term care.

7 In August 2003, Kapiolani Community College (KCC) convened
8 a meeting of all of the community colleges and respective
9 community agencies to review the present and future role of the
10 State's colleges. Community colleges are well dispersed
11 throughout the State and possess the capacity to provide the
12 training for the long-term care workforce across the healthcare
13 spectrum.

14 KCC is viewed as the flagship community college for
15 nursing, long-term care, and allied healthcare and education.
16 KCC's core healthcare curricula have been directed toward
17 expansion of the paraprofessional healthcare workforce. KCC is
18 well-positioned to play a role in strengthening the State's
19 capacity to provide affordable home and community-based long-
20 term care for its residents.

21 The purpose of this Act is to establish a long-term care
22 resource program initiative, with KCC, to develop an adaptable



1 model for expanding the State's workforce capacity for home and
2 community-based care to care effectively for Hawaii's aging
3 population.

4 SECTION 2. (a) There shall be established with KCC a
5 long-term care resource program initiative or similar entity
6 that contributes to:

7 (1) The expansion of the quality and quantity of home and
8 community-based long-term care workers by engaging in
9 active research on the skills required for this
10 segment of the workforce, the design of appropriate
11 curricula based on local industry standards, and the
12 delivery of training through a variety of traditional
13 and technology-based methods;

14 (2) The improvement in the support and training of family
15 caregivers through the collection, development, and
16 dissemination of resource materials, as well as the
17 provision of training for informal family caregivers;
18 and

19 (3) The promotion of active aging to harness the
20 productivity of the elderly to become a healthcare
21 resource for themselves and the community.



1 (b) The long-term care resource program initiative shall
2 serve as a model for other community colleges in the University
3 of Hawaii system to establish similar programs. KCC shall:

4 (1) Establish, no later than August 1, 2006, a working
5 group representing each of the community colleges to
6 provide support for resource sharing and
7 collaboration;

8 (2) Report to each of the other community colleges on a
9 regular basis on the issues involved in implementing
10 the program; and

11 (3) Propose a plan for statewide expansion of the program.

12 (c) KCC shall submit a progress report to the legislature
13 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
14 session of 2007.

15 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$250,000, or so much
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, to KCC
18 for start-up expenses to establish a long-term care resource
19 program initiative.



H.B. NO. 2063

1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
2 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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HB 2063

Report Title:

Long-Term Care Resource Initiative; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes and funds a long-term care resource initiative within Kapiolani Community College to expand the long-term caregiver workforce, improve the support and training of family caregivers, and promote active aging of the elderly.

