
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT SERVICES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that families, rather
2 than institutions, are the primary providers of long-term care
3 for older adults in the State. According to the executive
4 office on aging, in 2003, approximately twenty-one per cent of
5 Hawaii's adult population were providing care or assistance to a
6 person age sixty or older, with twenty-nine per cent caring for
7 a parent. Caregivers are motivated to provide care to family
8 members because of their values, the preference of the elderly
9 to remain at home with their families, and the high cost of
10 institutional long-term care.

11 In Hawaii, the likelihood of becoming a caregiver is
12 similar across different demographic groups and among persons
13 with varied socioeconomic characteristics. Adults of any
14 household income have a similar likelihood of providing care to
15 an elderly person. Married persons in Hawaii are just as likely
16 to provide care to an older adult as their unmarried
17 counterparts.



1 Among the different ethnic groups in Hawaii, native
2 Hawaiians are most likely to provide regular care to an older
3 adult, followed by Filipinos, Japanese, and Caucasians. Twelve
4 per cent of men and sixteen per cent of women provide care or
5 assistance to someone age sixty or older, according to the
6 executive office on aging. In national studies, women are more
7 likely than men to be primary caregivers, providing higher
8 intensity and frequency of care.

9 According to the executive office on aging, sixty-five per
10 cent of Hawaii's caregivers are employed. To balance their
11 employment and eldercare roles, working caregivers take leaves
12 of absence, report to work late or leave early, change from
13 full-time to part-time employment, change to less demanding
14 jobs, retire early, or give up work completely. As a
15 consequence, caregiving may reduce a caregiver's retirement
16 income since reduced hours on the job or fewer years in the
17 workforce may mean fewer contributions to pensions, social
18 security, and other retirement savings.

19 By 2020, more than one in four individuals will be sixty
20 years old or older. The need for personal care due to physical,
21 sensory, cognitive, and self-care disabilities increase with
22 age. As Hawaii's population ages, many more families will be



1 providing higher levels of long-term care to frail and disabled
2 older adults at home.

3 The purpose of this Act is to provide for the coordination
4 and development of family caregiver support services.

5 SECTION 2. The executive office on aging shall coordinate
6 a statewide system of caregiver support services by, among other
7 things:

- 8 (1) Integrating family caregiver support with the Aging
9 and Disability Resource Center demonstration project;
- 10 (2) Analyzing the long-term care needs of older adults and
11 the capacity of family and informal caregivers to help
12 them remain safely at home;
- 13 (3) Advocating, mobilizing, and coordinating employer and
14 community resources to enable and augment family
15 caregiver support;
- 16 (4) Establishing and maintaining protocols and standards
17 for federal and state caregiver services administered
18 by state, county, or other local agencies on aging;
- 19 (5) Establishing and supervising the alignment of long-
20 term care advocacy assistance staff caregiver support
21 objectives with the planning, resource development,



1 grants management, data management, and evaluation
2 functions of the executive office on aging; and
3 (6) Coordinating statewide support for grandparents and
4 other aging relative caregivers of children eighteen
5 and under.

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1, or so much
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for the
9 executive office on aging to coordinate a statewide system of
10 family caregiver support services.

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

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

HB 2064
HD 1

Report Title:

Family Caregiver Support Services; Appropriation

Description:

Makes an appropriation for the executive office on aging to coordinate a statewide system for family caregiver support services. (HB2064 HD1)

