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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ELDERLY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a major deficiency  
2 exists in the State's disaster planning and preparedness for  
3 older individuals who lack family or service agency support.  
4 The recent events of Hurricane Katrina and September 11th forced  
5 our communities to recognize the extreme vulnerability of our  
6 older populations.

7           A substantial portion of the older population in Hawaii are  
8 socially or geographically isolated and not served by community  
9 agencies. These people are particularly vulnerable in disaster  
10 situations because they often require special transportation  
11 services, have critical medical and pharmaceutical needs, and  
12 have difficulty communicating due to cultural differences and  
13 language barriers.

14           The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation and  
15 establish a community-based disaster planning and preparedness  
16 pilot program for older individuals who lack family or service  
17 agency support.



1 SECTION 2. (a) There is created a pilot program to be  
2 known as the disaster planning and preparedness pilot program  
3 for older individuals. The department of health shall  
4 administer the program through the executive office on aging.  
5 The program shall target older individuals who lack family or  
6 service agency support.

7 (b) For the purposes of subsection (a), the executive  
8 office on aging shall establish an advisory group to identify  
9 older individuals at-risk, methods of culturally sensitive  
10 outreach and survival kits, procedures for training in emergency  
11 and evacuation situations, and procedures for recruiting and  
12 educating volunteers.

13 (c) The executive office on aging shall report to the  
14 legislature twenty days prior to the legislative session about  
15 the progress of the pilot program.

16 (d) This section shall be repealed on June 30, 2008.

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000, or so much  
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for the  
20 executive office on aging to establish a community-based  
21 disaster planning and preparedness pilot program for older  
22 individuals who lack family or service agency support.



**Report Title:**

Elderly; Disaster Preparedness Pilot Program

**Description:**

Establishes a community-based disaster planning and preparedness pilot program for older individuals who lack family or service agency support. Makes an appropriation. (SD1)

