

PROPOSED

THE SENATE
TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2005
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 238
S.D. 1

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

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

17 SECTION 2. (a) There is created a pilot program to be
18 known as the disaster planning and preparedness pilot program

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1 for older individuals. The department of health shall
 2 administer the program through the executive office on aging.
 3 The program shall target older individuals who lack family or
 4 service agency support.

5 (b) The purpose of the pilot program shall be to identify
 6 older individuals at-risk, methods of culturally sensitive
 7 outreach and survival kits, procedures for training in emergency
 8 and evacuation situations, and procedures for recruiting and
 9 educating volunteers.

10 (c) For purposes of subsection (a), the executive office
 11 on aging shall establish an advisory group to provide input on
 12 development of the pilot program.

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16 (e) This section shall be repealed on June 30, 2008.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



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1 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
2 department of health for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

