
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 This shall be a model program that focuses on older individuals
6 who lack family or service agency support. The program shall be
7 volunteer- and community-based and the executive office on aging
8 shall work in conjunction with the Volunteer Organization Active
9 in Disaster Relief, the Volunteer Resource Center of Hawaii, and
10 other volunteer organizations trained in disaster preparedness.

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

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

20 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the

1 department of health for the purposes of this Act.

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



SB238, SD2

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. (SD2)

