
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAREGIVING.

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

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. On July 1, 1999, the department of health,
3 executive office on aging launched its statewide long-term care
4 program called kupuna care. Kupuna care was developed in
5 partnership with the county area agencies on aging to address
6 the growing numbers of elders with long-term care needs.

7 Services provided by kupuna care are intended to help meet
8 the needs of older adults who cannot live at home without
9 adequate help from family or formal services and includes
10 services such as adult day care, assisted transportation,
11 attendant care, case management, chore, home delivered meals,
12 homemaker, transportation, and personal care.

13 Kupuna care was designed to assist, not totally support,
14 Hawaii's older adults to live independently, safely, and healthy
15 for as long as possible. United States citizens or legal aliens
16 sixty years or older who are not receiving other comparable
17 government assistance, who need help with activities of daily
18 living (eating, dressing, bathing, toileting, transferring,



1 mobility) or because they have reduced mental capacity, and who
2 are not residing in an institution, may qualify for the program.

3 State funds cover the cost of services for those who cannot
4 afford to pay. Kupuna care offers a reduced rate for those who
5 can afford to pay only a portion of the service. Voluntary
6 donations to the service provider are welcomed for any service
7 provided and are used to support the cost of care of additional
8 clients.

9 The purpose of part I is to ensure that this worthwhile
10 program continues to maintain the quality of life of Hawaii's
11 older adults and their family caregivers by appropriating funds
12 to expand kupuna care services.

13 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000, or so much
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, to expand
16 the kupuna care services program.

17 SECTION 3. The sum appropriated in section 2 shall be
18 expended by the department of health, executive office on aging
19 for the purposes of part I of this Act.

20 PART II

21 SECTION 4. The legislature finds that families, rather
22 than institutions, are the primary providers of long-term care



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

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

16 Among the different ethnic groups in Hawaii, native
17 Hawaiians are most likely to provide regular care to an older
18 adult, followed by Filipinos, Japanese, and Caucasians. Twelve
19 per cent of men and sixteen per cent of women provide care or
20 assistance to someone age sixty or older, according to the
21 executive office on aging. In national studies, women are more



1 likely than men to be primary caregivers, providing higher
2 intensity and frequency of care.

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

13 By 2020, more than one in four individuals will be sixty
14 years old or older. The need for personal care due to physical,
15 sensory, cognitive, and self-care disabilities increase with
16 age. As Hawaii's population ages, many more families will be
17 providing higher levels of long-term care to frail and disabled
18 older adults at home.

19 The purpose of part II is to provide for the coordination
20 and development of family caregiver support services.



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

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



1 (6) Coordinating statewide support for grandparents and
2 other aging relative caregivers of children eighteen
3 and under.

4 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$80,000, or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for the
7 executive office on aging to coordinate a statewide system of
8 family caregiver support services.

9 SECTION 7. The sum appropriated in section 6 shall be
10 expended by the department of health, executive office on aging
11 for the purposes of part II this Act.

12 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.



Report Title:

Family Caregiver Support Services; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to provide for the coordination and development of family caregiver support services and to expand the kupuna care services program. (CD1)

