
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE TASK FORCE ON AGING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 1980, older
2 adults comprised 12 per cent of the state's total population.
3 In 2000, the population nearly doubled, with over 207,000 older
4 adults comprising 17 per cent of Hawaii's total population.
5 This trend is expected to continue. According to a May 2006
6 report prepared by the executive office on aging, by the year
7 2020, persons age 60 and older will constitute nearly one-third,
8 or 30 per cent, of Hawaii's adult population. Moreover, the
9 number of persons who are 85 years of age and older is projected
10 to continue to increase dramatically, from 5,561 in 1980 to
11 33,800 in 2020.

12 The legislature further finds that the array of publicly-
13 funded programs and services that serve the older population in
14 the areas of health care, disability services, insurance, long-
15 term care, caregiver support, medicaid, medicare, and
16 institutional and community-based adult care, for example, are
17 scattered among state departments. These programs and services



1 help to meet the multi-faceted needs of older adults and are
2 provided by various county, state, federal, private, and not-
3 for-profit entities but can be challenging for care recipients,
4 caregivers, and families to navigate. As a central agency, the
5 executive office on aging currently coordinates some of the
6 programs and services available to Hawaii's older population;
7 however, the scope and magnitude of overlapping issues facing
8 the elderly may necessitate department-level attention. A
9 departmental agency could better focus resources and personnel
10 by directly addressing with top-level policy makers the multi-
11 faceted needs of Hawaii's older population.

12 The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force on
13 aging to study the need for, feasibility of, and preliminary
14 plans for the consolidation of publicly-funded programs and
15 services that would appropriately fall within the jurisdiction
16 of a new department of aging.

17 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a task force on
18 aging, which shall be responsible for determining the need for
19 and feasibility of establishing a department of aging.

20 (b) The task force on aging shall be composed of eighteen
21 members as follows:



- 1 (1) Two members of the senate who shall be appointed by
2 the president of the senate;
- 3 (2) Two members of the house of representatives who shall
4 be appointed by the speaker of the house of
5 representatives;
- 6 (3) The director of health or the director's designee, as
7 an ex-officio, nonvoting member;
- 8 (4) The director of human services or the director's
9 designee, as an ex-officio, nonvoting member;
- 10 (5) The director of transportation or the director's
11 designee, as an ex-officio, nonvoting member;
- 12 (6) The director of finance or the director's designee, as
13 an ex-officio, nonvoting member;
- 14 (7) The attorney general or the attorney general's
15 designee, as an ex-officio, nonvoting member;
- 16 (8) The director of the executive office on aging or the
17 director's designee;
- 18 (9) One representative from the city and county of
19 Honolulu elderly care division;
- 20 (10) One representative from the Hawaii county office of
21 aging;



- 1 (11) One representative from the Maui county office on
2 aging;
- 3 (12) One representative from the Kauai agency on elder
4 affairs;
- 5 (13) One representative from the policy advisory board for
6 elderly affairs;
- 7 (14) One representative from CARE Hawaii, Inc.;
- 8 (15) One representative from the Hawaii Caregiver
9 Coalition;
- 10 (16) One representative from the Hawaii Alliance of Retired
11 Americans; and
- 12 (17) One representative from the Kokua Council.

13 The task force on aging shall select a chairperson from its
14 membership.

15 (c) The task force on aging shall gather input from, but
16 not limited to:

- 17 (1) The department of health, the department of human
18 services, the department of transportation, the
19 University of Hawaii, and the executive office on
20 aging, regarding specific programs and services, to be
21 identified by their current State of Hawaii program
22 structure identification numbers, currently within



1 their jurisdiction, which would appropriately fall
2 within the jurisdiction of the new department of
3 aging;

4 (2) The department of budget and finance, the department
5 of human resources development, the department of the
6 attorney general, and the department of accounting and
7 general services, regarding the budget, personnel,
8 legal, and administrative impacts of shifting programs
9 from the specified departments to the new department
10 of aging; and

11 (3) The policy advisory board for elderly affairs, the
12 Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans, the Kokua
13 Council, the Hawaii Aging Advocates Coalition, AARP
14 Hawaii, the Hawaii Caregiver Coalition, the city and
15 county of Honolulu elderly care division, the Hawaii
16 county office of aging, the Maui county office on
17 aging, the Kauai agency on elder affairs, and other
18 elderly, disability, business, and faith-based
19 organizations and advocates regarding the need for a
20 specific department of aging and the programs and
21 services that would appropriately fall within the
22 jurisdiction of the new department of aging.



1 (d) The task force on aging shall submit its findings and
2 recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the
3 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
4 the regular session of 2009. The executive office on aging
5 shall assist the task force on aging in preparing the report.

6 (e) The task force on aging shall cease to exist on
7 June 30, 2009.

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for
11 the task force on aging established pursuant to section 2 of
12 this Act.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the executive
14 office on aging for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
16 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



Report Title:

Task Force on Aging; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a task force on aging to study the need for and feasibility of establishing a department of aging. Requires the task force on aging to submit findings and recommendations to the legislature. Appropriates funds for the task force on aging. (HB2112 HD1)

