
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAREGIVING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature established the Joint
2 Legislative Committee on Family Caregiving (JLCFC) pursuant to
3 Act 285, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2006, and JLCFC was
4 further extended to June 30, 2008, under Act 204, SLH 2007 (Act
5 204). JLCFC has been diligent in its role to strengthen support
6 to family caregivers through various means. One of these means
7 of support is respite care.

8 The Legislative Reference Bureau conducted a study pursuant
9 to House Concurrent Resolution No. 187, adopted during the
10 regular session of 2007 (H.C.R. No. 187), on how other states
11 address the issue of respite care. The report indicated that
12 respite has been shown to be beneficial in lowering stress and
13 other negative consequences of caregiving. Additionally, a
14 comprehensive family caregiver needs assessment conducted
15 pursuant to Act 204 also indicated that respite care is one of
16 the top choices of assistance that caregivers feel would be
17 helpful.



1 Respite care can relieve the everyday stress of providing
2 round-the-clock care. However, there are times when emergency
3 respite care becomes critical when a family caregiver is
4 unexpectedly unable to provide care because of illness, an
5 accident, or other reasons.

6 More needs to be done to determine the full inventory of
7 respite care providers and the specific types of respite care
8 provided in the state. The types of respite care can include
9 planned respite care, short term respite, or emergency respite
10 care. Additionally, although respite services may be available,
11 caregivers are not always aware that such services are
12 available, or may not know where to go to seek assistance.

13 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
14 executive office on aging to continue its respite inventory
15 project pursuant to H.C.R. No. 187, in collaboration with the
16 university of Hawaii at Manoa school of social work.

17 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the
20 executive office on aging, in collaboration with the university
21 of Hawaii school of social work, to:



- 1 (1) Continue to conduct an inventory of the respite
- 2 services in Hawaii;
- 3 (2) Establish a definition of "respite care";
- 4 (3) Establish more detailed descriptions of each of the
- 5 various types of respite services provided in the
- 6 state; and
- 7 (4) Review the legislative reference bureau's 2007 report
- 8 on respite policies in other states to identify the
- 9 most promising approaches for Hawaii to support
- 10 expanding respite services, including how much support
- 11 is financed, what types of respite are provided and to
- 12 whom, and who performs the respite services.

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

15 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

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INTRODUCED BY: Maunaloa B. Lee

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Report Title:

Respite Care Inventory Project; Executive Office on Aging

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Executive Office on Aging to continue its respite inventory project in collaboration with the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Social Work.

