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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELDER AFFAIRS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the purpose of the  
2 policy advisory board for elder affairs is to contribute to the  
3 solutions of the problems relating to aging. The legislature  
4 has been advised that, at times, the director of the executive  
5 office on aging, as well as other officers of the department of  
6 health, have altered, edited, or withheld recommendations of the  
7 board in cases where those recommendations may be inconsistent  
8 with the recommendations or positions of the administration.

9           The legislature further finds that the current practice of  
10 the director and other officers of the department of health  
11 defeats the intended purpose of the board by promoting the  
12 policy of the administration over policy benefiting the aging as  
13 identified by the board. The recommendations and positions of  
14 the board reflect the unique interests of the aging as a group  
15 and should be required to be disseminated, unaltered and  
16 unedited, by the director or any other state officer.



1           The purpose of this Act is to authorize the policy advisory  
2 board for elder affairs to directly testify before the  
3 legislature on any matter related to its duties and  
4 responsibilities.

5           SECTION 2. Section 349-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7           "**§349-4 Policy advisory board for elder affairs.** (a)

8 There shall be a policy advisory board for elder affairs,  
9 appointed by the governor under section 26-34.

10          (b) The board shall advise the director in, but not  
11 limited to, the following areas:

12           (1) The identification of issues and alternative  
13 approaches to solutions;

14           (2) The development of position statements and papers;

15           (3) Advocacy and legislative actions; and

16           (4) Program development and operations.

17 The board may testify before the legislature on any matter  
18 related to its duties and responsibilities.

19          (c) The board shall consist of not less than twenty-one  
20 nor more than twenty-nine members, a majority of whom are over  
21 sixty years of age and who shall be selected on the basis of  
22 their interests and knowledge in and their ability to make



1 contributions to the solution of problems relating to aging, and  
2 shall include at least one member from the county of Hawaii, one  
3 member from the county of Maui, one member from the county of  
4 Kauai, and one member from the city and county of Honolulu.  
5 There shall be nine members who shall serve as ex officio  
6 members and shall be chosen from among the heads of the  
7 following state agencies which provide services or programs  
8 affecting elders: health, human services, education, labor and  
9 industrial relations, University of Hawaii, transportation, the  
10 state retirement system, the office of consumer protection, and,  
11 by invitation, the Hawaii representative of the United States  
12 Department of Health[~~, Education and Welfare.~~] and Human  
13 Services. Of the non ex officio members, one-third of the  
14 members shall be appointed for the term of four years, one-third  
15 for the term of three years, and one-third for the term of two  
16 years; and thereafter the terms of office of each member shall  
17 be four years. The members shall serve without compensation,  
18 but shall be paid their necessary expenses in attending meetings  
19 and carrying out the responsibilities of the board. The  
20 chairperson shall be elected annually from the nongovernmental  
21 members of the board. There shall be not less than twelve  
22 meetings of the board each year."



1 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



**Report Title:**

Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs; Issuance of Policy

**Description:**

Authorizes the policy advisory board for elder affairs to directly testify before the legislature on any matter related to its duties and responsibilities. (SB2129 HD1)

