
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAREGIVING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that over two hundred
2 forty thousand Hawaii residents are age sixty or older. Family
3 caregivers provide care for a large percentage of these older
4 adults, who overwhelmingly prefer to live and receive care in
5 their homes. However, there are also many older adults who need
6 care, but do not have family living in Hawaii who can assist
7 them.

8 As the baby boomer generation ages, the percentage of older
9 adults in the community will increase. By 2020, it is projected
10 that more than one in four individuals will be age sixty or
11 older. As a result, paid caregiving services, including those
12 in institutional settings, will become even less available and
13 less affordable to the older adult population. The legislature
14 finds that the level of volunteer caregiving provided to older
15 adults will have to increase substantially to serve the
16 increased number of older adults with caregiving needs.



1 The legislature further finds that many Hawaii residents
2 volunteer their time for the benefit of others, and a structured
3 program that offers credit to them for their volunteered
4 caregiving hours could substantially increase the level of
5 caregiving services available to older adults. Programs that
6 encourage volunteer reciprocity among residents have been
7 successful in Florida and Missouri, and provide a model for
8 Hawaii to replicate.

9 Programs that encourage reciprocity among residents have
10 been successful at over two hundred fifty time banks in the
11 United States. Programs are currently operating in twenty-two
12 countries on six continents. For example, residents who
13 volunteer time to provide caregiving services, such as
14 transportation or chore services, could receive a credit for
15 each volunteer hour provided. Accumulated volunteer-hours could
16 then be used by the caregiver to acquire services that they need
17 or donated by the caregiver to another person. This type of
18 program encourages residents to volunteer to help others by
19 enabling them to bank their volunteer-hours for their own future
20 use. Time banking is a social change movement that would help
21 to improve the infrastructure of our families, neighborhoods,
22 and communities. Time banks help to identify people in the



1 communities to partner with and values and rewards their
2 contributions.

3 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the
4 executive office on aging to develop and implement a volunteer-
5 hours exchange pilot program.

6 SECTION 2. (a) The executive office on aging shall
7 develop and implement a volunteer-hours exchange pilot program.

8 (b) In designing and implementing the volunteer-hours
9 exchange pilot program, the executive office on aging shall:

10 (1) Research best practices, including how similar
11 programs have been designed and implemented in other
12 states, such as Florida and Missouri, and other
13 countries;

14 (2) Consult with community stakeholders; and

15 (3) Implement the program in two communities.

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and
19 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
20 year 2008-2009, for the executive office on aging to develop and
21 implement a volunteer-hours exchange pilot program pursuant to
22 section 2.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2 of health for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



Report Title:

Caregiving; Volunteer-Hours Exchange Pilot Program

Description:

Appropriates funds for the executive office on aging to develop and implement a volunteer-hours exchange pilot program in two communities. (SD1)

