

JAN 16 2008

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# 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:

Jim Ahumada Jr

Jim  
F

Randy de Potter

Erzanne Chun Oakland

Norman Sakamoto

John Gish  
Chris H



**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.

