

JAN 17 2008

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 prohibit the director and any
2 other state officer from altering, editing, or withholding any
3 recommendation, position statement, paper, or other work product
4 issued by the policy advisory board for elder affairs.

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 director and any other state officer shall not alter, edit,
18 or withhold any recommendation, position statement, paper, or
19 other work product issued by the board.

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



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



1 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

2 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Franne Ann Oakland*
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Report Title:

Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs; Issuance of Policy

Description:

Prohibits the director of the executive office on aging from altering, editing or withholding any work product issued by policy advisory board for elder affairs because it is inconsistent with the policy of the administration.

