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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE TASK FORCE ON AGING.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 1980, older  
2 adults comprised twelve per cent of the State's total  
3 population. In 2000, the population nearly doubled, with over  
4 two hundred and seven thousand older adults comprising seventeen  
5 per cent of Hawaii's total population. This growth trend is  
6 expected to continue. According to a May 2006 report prepared  
7 by the executive office on aging, *Profile of Hawaii's Older*  
8 *Adults and Their Caregivers*, by the year 2020, persons age sixty  
9 and older will constitute nearly one-third, or thirty per cent,  
10 of Hawaii's adult population. Moreover, the number of persons  
11 who are eighty-five years of age and older is projected to  
12 continue to increase dramatically, from 5,561 in 1980 to 33,800  
13 in 2020.

14           The legislature further finds that the array of publicly-  
15 funded programs and services that serve the older population in  
16 the areas of health care, disability services, insurance, long-  
17 term care, caregiver support, medicaid, medicare, and



1 institutional and community-based adult care, for example, are  
2 scattered among state departments. These programs and services  
3 help to meet the multi-faceted needs of older adults and are  
4 provided by various county, state, federal, private, and not-  
5 for-profit entities but can be challenging for care recipients,  
6 caregivers, and families to navigate. As a central agency, the  
7 executive office on aging currently coordinates some of the  
8 programs and services available to Hawaii's older population;  
9 however, the scope and magnitude of overlapping issues facing  
10 the elderly may necessitate department-level attention. A  
11 departmental agency could better focus resources and personnel  
12 by directly addressing with top-level policy makers the multi-  
13 faceted needs of Hawaii's older population.

14 The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force on  
15 aging to study the need for, feasibility of, and preliminary  
16 plans for the consolidation of publicly-funded programs and  
17 services that would appropriately fall within the jurisdiction  
18 of a new department of aging.

19 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a task force on  
20 aging, which shall be responsible for determining the need for  
21 and feasibility of establishing a department of aging.



1 (b) The task force on aging shall be comprised of nineteen  
2 members as follows:

3 (1) Two members of the senate who shall be appointed by  
4 the president of the senate;

5 (2) Two members of the house of representatives who shall  
6 be appointed by the speaker of the house of  
7 representatives;

8 (3) The director of health or the director's designee, as  
9 an ex-officio, non-voting member;

10 (4) The director of human services or the director's  
11 designee, as an ex-officio, non-voting member;

12 (5) The director of transportation or the director's  
13 designee, as an ex-officio, non-voting member;

14 (6) The director of finance or the director's designee, as  
15 an ex-officio, non-voting member;

16 (7) The attorney general or the attorney general's  
17 designee, as an ex-officio, non-voting member;

18 (8) One representative from the executive office on aging;

19 (9) One representative from the city and county of  
20 Honolulu elderly care division;

21 (10) One representative from the Hawaii county office of  
22 aging;



- 1           (11) One representative from the Maui county office on  
2                   aging;
- 3           (12) One representative from the Kauai agency on elder  
4                   affairs;
- 5           (13) One representative from the policy advisory board for  
6                   elderly affairs;
- 7           (14) One representative from CARE Hawaii, Inc.;
- 8           (15) One representative from the Hawaii Caregiver  
9                   Coalition;
- 10          (16) One representative from the Hawaii Alliance of Retired  
11                   Americans; and
- 12          (17) One representative from the Kokua Council.

13           The task force on aging shall select a chairperson from its  
14 membership.

15           (c) The task force on aging shall gather input from  
16 agencies including, but not limited to:

- 17           (1) The department of health, the department of human  
18                   services, the department of transportation, the  
19                   University of Hawaii, and the executive office on  
20                   aging, regarding specific programs and services, to be  
21                   identified by their current State of Hawaii program  
22                   structure identification numbers, currently within



1           their jurisdiction, which would fall appropriately  
2           within the jurisdiction of the new department of  
3           aging;

4           (2) The department of budget and finance, the department  
5           of human resources development, the department of the  
6           attorney general, and the department of accounting and  
7           general services, regarding the budget, personnel,  
8           legal, and administrative impacts of shifting programs  
9           from the specified departments to the new department  
10          of aging; and

11          (3) The policy advisory board for elderly affairs, the  
12          Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans, the Kokua  
13          Council, the Hawaii Aging Advocates Coalition, AARP  
14          Hawaii, the Hawaii Caregiver Coalition, the city and  
15          county of Honolulu elderly care division, the Hawaii  
16          county office of aging, the Maui county office on  
17          aging, the Kauai agency on elder affairs, and other  
18          elderly, disability, business, and faith based  
19          organizations and advocates regarding the need for a  
20          specific department of aging and the programs and  
21          services that would appropriately fall within the  
22          jurisdiction of the new department of aging.



1           (d) The task force on aging shall submit its findings and  
2 recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the  
3 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
4 the regular session of 2010. The executive office on aging  
5 shall assist the task force on aging in preparing the report.

6           (e) The task force on aging shall cease to exist on  
7 June 30, 2010.

8           SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for  
11 the task force on aging established pursuant to section 2 of  
12 this Act.

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

15           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
16 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



**Report Title:**

Task Force on Aging; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a task force on aging to study the need for and feasibility of establishing a department of aging. Requires the task force on aging to submit findings and recommendations to the legislature. Appropriates funds for the task force on aging. (SD1)

