

JAN 19 2007

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that major systems  
2 changes are being initiated that are designed to promote self-  
3 determination and self-directed services and supports for  
4 individuals with developmental disabilities.

5           Nationwide, individuals with developmental disabilities are  
6 emerging as leaders in their communities and state. They are  
7 active partners in the planning, development, and implementation  
8 of policies and programs that shape the services and supports  
9 that enable them to live in the community.

10          Hawaii is at the forefront in acknowledging that  
11 individuals with developmental disabilities are capable of  
12 determining their personal goals and directing resources needed  
13 to accomplish those goals. Chapter 333F, Hawaii Revised  
14 Statutes, provides individuals with developmental disabilities  
15 with the opportunity to develop a personal plan, the authority  
16 to control identified amounts of moneys to accomplish the plan,  
17 support to achieve their goals, responsibility to participate



1 and contribute in community activities, and accountability in  
2 spending public moneys wisely.

3 Several initiatives conducted and supported by the  
4 department of health, developmental disabilities division and  
5 the state council on developmental disabilities have focused on  
6 consumer-directed services, supports, and partners in  
7 policymaking. The intent is for individuals with developmental  
8 disabilities to remain in control of their own lives by  
9 supporting them in directing their individual service plan,  
10 budget, and resources.

11 The legislature further finds that a self-advocacy network  
12 has begun to organize with a growing small group of self-  
13 advocates to increase knowledge, understanding, and awareness of  
14 their rights, develop leadership skills, and empower themselves  
15 to take control of their lives, and make their own decisions.  
16 Their mission is to raise the quality of life for persons with  
17 developmental disabilities through leadership, education, and  
18 full participation in society.

19 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for a  
20 coordinator and operating expenses to support a statewide self-  
21 advocacy network of persons with developmental disabilities to  
22 provide education and training, provide opportunities to develop



1 leadership skills, and to network with other self-advocacy  
2 organizations across the country.

3 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$89,602, or so much  
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
6 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
7 2008-2009 for a coordinator and operating expenses to support a  
8 statewide self-advocacy network for persons with developmental  
9 disabilities.

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

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.  
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**Report Title:**

Health; Developmental Disabilities

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for a coordinator and operating expenses to support a statewide self-advocacy network for individuals with development disabilities.

