
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's kupuna
2 population, age sixty and older, represents the fastest growing
3 segment of the State's population. Along with an aging
4 population come issues relating to disease. Several services
5 relating to kupuna care, including adult day care, attendant
6 care, and personal care, address problems brought on by diseases
7 and other health-related issues. Among the more common diseases
8 that Hawaii's elderly battle are Alzheimer's disease and related
9 dementia. The Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, estimates
10 that twenty-eight thousand Hawaii residents suffer from
11 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. Further, the
12 Alzheimer's Association reports that Alzheimer's disease is an
13 illness of long duration, often lasting eight to twelve years.
14 Six out of ten people with Alzheimer's disease and related
15 dementia will wander during the course of their illness.
16 Wandering can be dangerous and sometimes fatal, and causes
17 stress among caregivers and family members.



1 The legislature also finds that there are registration
2 services, such as MedicAlert + Safe Return, through which
3 individuals who wander can be more easily located, identified,
4 and returned safely to their families. This and similar
5 services also aid police and other first responders in the safe
6 return of kupuna who are found but who cannot remember essential
7 contact information.

8 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds as a grant
9 to the Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, to support and
10 promote participation in elder registration services in the
11 State.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000 or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and the
15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
16 2012-2013 as a grant, pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised
17 Statutes, to the Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Association,
18 Inc., dba Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, to:

19 (1) Support and promote an elder wanderer's registration
20 service in the State to protect individuals with
21 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia;



- 1 (2) Conduct targeted outreach throughout the State to
2 increase enrollment in the State of Hawaii in the
3 national wanderer's registry and offer scholarships
4 and subsidies to low-income families, as defined by
5 the United States Department of Health and Human
6 Services' 2010 poverty guidelines for Hawaii, who want
7 to enroll in the registry;
- 8 (3) Conduct annual training for first responders and other
9 community members to increase awareness and provide
10 ongoing education on best practices for search and
11 rescue efforts for people with dementia; and
- 12 (4) When authorized by the family, issue customized
13 updates and information through social media to
14 provide alerts to community members and assist with
15 search and rescue efforts.

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

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

19



Report Title:

Kupuna Care; Wanderer's Registry; Appropriation; Kupuna Caucus

Description:

Appropriates funds as a grant to the Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, to support and promote participation in elder registration services to protect individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

