
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the aging and
2 disability resource centers initiative is a collaborative
3 federal and state multi-agency effort with the support of the
4 counties led by the United States Administration on Aging and
5 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to streamline access
6 to long-term supports and services for older adults, all persons
7 with disabilities, family caregivers, and providers.

8 Aging and disability resource centers are designed to
9 address the frustrations many consumers and their families
10 experience when they need to obtain information and access to
11 long-term supports and services. In many communities, long-term
12 supports and services are administered by multiple agencies,
13 both public and private, and have complex, fragmented, and often
14 duplicative intake, assessment, and eligibility functions.
15 Figuring out how to obtain long-term supports and services can
16 be difficult. A single, coordinated system of information and
17 access for all persons seeking long-term supports and services



1 minimizes confusion, enhances individual choice, and fosters
2 informed decision-making. It also improves the ability of state
3 and county governments to manage resources and monitor program
4 quality through centralized data collection and evaluation which
5 will result in the ability to target existing resources where
6 most needed, better estimate future need, and develop long-term
7 strategies for sustainability.

8 Aging and disability resource centers use two broad
9 strategies to divert persons from unnecessary and costly long-
10 term institutional care and ensure that short-term institutional
11 stays do not become permanent:

- 12 (1) Intervening with options counseling; and
- 13 (2) Expediting eligibility determination processes for
14 home and community-based services.

15 Aging and disability resource centers serve a critical role in
16 improving the ability of state and county governments to
17 effectively manage the long-term supports and services system,
18 monitor program quality, and measure responsiveness of state and
19 county systems of care.

20 The purpose of this Act is to establish the aging and
21 disability resource center program under the coordination of the
22 executive office on aging.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 349, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
3 to read as follows:

4 "PART . AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCES CENTERS

5 §349- Definitions. As used in this part, unless the
6 context otherwise requires:

7 "Aging and disability resource center" means an entity
8 established by the State as part of the state system of long-
9 term care serving as a highly visible and trusted source where
10 people of all incomes and ages can get information on the full
11 range of long-term support options and a single point of entry
12 for access to public long-term support programs and benefits.

13 "Area agency on aging" means the agency in each county
14 designated by the executive office on aging, under the Older
15 Americans Act section 305(a)(2)(A), to facilitate the area-wide
16 development and implementation of a comprehensive, coordinated
17 system for providing long-term care in home and community-based
18 setting, in a manner responsive to the needs and preferences of
19 older individuals and their family caregivers.

20 "Dementia" means a group of symptoms affecting intellectual
21 and social abilities severely enough to interfere with daily
22 functioning.



1 "Developmental disability" means a lifelong disability
2 attributable to mental or physical impairments, manifested prior
3 to age 18.

4 "Family caregivers" means a spouse, adult child, other
5 relative, partner or friend who has a personal relationship
6 with, and provides a broad range of unpaid assistance for an
7 older adult with a chronic or disabling condition.

8 "Informal caregiver" means a person who provides care for
9 an older adult or person with a disability who needs long-term
10 supports and services, but does not receive compensation.

11 "Intellectual disability" means a general disorder
12 characterized by significantly impaired cognitive functioning
13 and deficits in two or more adaptive behaviors that appears
14 before adulthood.

15 "Long-term supports and services" means the broad range of
16 assistance and care needed by older persons or persons with
17 physical or mental disabilities who have lost or never acquired
18 the ability to function independently.

19 "Options counseling" means an interactive decision-support
20 process whereby consumers, family members, and significant
21 others are supported in their deliberations to determine
22 appropriate long-term care choices in the context of a



1 consumer's needs, preferences, values, and individual
2 circumstances.

3 "Physical disability" means the broad range of disabilities
4 including orthopedic, neuromuscular, cardiovascular and
5 pulmonary disorders, which may be congenital or a result of
6 aging or injury.

7 "Severe mental illness" means one of several diseases that
8 affect the brain, and significantly functionally impair an
9 individual for an indefinite period of time.

10 **§349- Aging and disability resource center program;**

11 **established.** (a) There is established a statewide aging and
12 disability resource center program with sites in each county to
13 streamline access to long-term supports and services by
14 integrating the full range of long-term supports and services
15 into a single, coordinated system.

16 (b) The aging and disability resource center shall be the
17 single point of entry, available in every county, where persons
18 of all ages, incomes, and disabilities may access information in
19 a person-centered manner on the full range of long-term support
20 and service options, including:

21 (1) Federal, state, and county revenue-funded programs and
22 services including, but not limited to, those funded



- 1 by medicaid, medicare, Older Americans Act, the
2 Veterans Administration, and Kupuna Care;
- 3 (2) A centralized application process for publically
4 funded long-term supports and services;
- 5 (3) Privately administered programs and services;
- 6 (4) Supports and services for persons with Alzheimer's
7 disease and other related dementias;
- 8 (5) Transportation services;
- 9 (6) Housing options;
- 10 (7) Elder person's rights protection;
- 11 (8) Hospital and nursing home discharge planning and care
12 transition;
- 13 (9) Health, prevention, and wellness programs;
- 14 (10) Support for grandparents raising grandchildren and
15 other relatives age fifty-five years or older caring
16 for children; and
- 17 (11) Informal and family caregiver support services.
- 18 (c) The aging and disability resource centers shall target
19 delivery of services to:
- 20 (1) Persons sixty years of age and older;



1 (2) Persons of any age with physical disabilities, serious
2 mental illness, dementia, and developmental or
3 intellectual disabilities;

4 (3) Informal and family caregivers providing assistance to
5 persons needing long-term supports and services;

6 (4) Professionals seeking long-term supports and services
7 on behalf of their clients; and

8 (5) Persons planning for their future long-term supports
9 and service needs.

10 (d) The executive office on aging shall coordinate the
11 implementation of the statewide aging and disability resource
12 center program.

13 (e) The area agencies on aging shall implement the
14 statewide aging and disability resource center program within
15 their respective geographic service areas."

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 to
19 establish the aging and disability resource centers in each
20 county.



1 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
2 executive office on aging for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Aging and Disability Resource Centers; Executive Office on Aging; Appropriation

Description:

Creates a statewide Aging and Disability Resource Center Program to streamline access to long-term support and services for older adults, persons with disabilities, and family caregivers. Requires the Executive Office on Aging to coordinate and implement the Program. Appropriates money to establish the Aging and Disability Resource Centers. (HB2517 HD1)

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