
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) The aging and disability resource center
2 initiative is a collaborative effort led by the United States
3 Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Aging
4 and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and involves
5 the partnership of the federal Office on Disability, the
6 Administration for Developmental Disabilities, as well as the
7 United States Department of Education and the United States
8 Department of Veterans Affairs. This initiative seeks to
9 streamline access to long-term services and support for older
10 adults, persons with disabilities, family caregivers, and
11 providers.

12 Aging and disability resource centers serve as a single
13 point of entry into the long-term support and service system for
14 older adults, people with disabilities, caregivers, and
15 families. Sometimes referred to as "one stop shops" or "no
16 wrong door" systems, aging and disability resource centers help
17 individuals and their families to identify their long-term
18 support and service needs, understand their long-term support



1 options including publicly funded programs that are available to
2 them, and develop and activate a long-term support and service
3 plan. Aging and disability resource centers raise the awareness
4 about the full range of available options; provide objective
5 information, advice, counseling, and assistance; empower people
6 to make informed decisions about their long-term support and
7 service needs; and help people access public and private
8 programs.

9 Aging and disability resource centers are designed to
10 address the frustrations that many consumers and their families
11 experience when they need information and access to available
12 support and services. In many communities, long-term support
13 and services are administered by multiple agencies and have
14 complex, fragmented, and often duplicative intake, assessment,
15 and eligibility functions. Determining how to obtain services
16 can be difficult for consumers and their families, and a single,
17 coordinated system of information and access for all persons
18 seeking long-term support minimizes confusion, enhances
19 individual choice, and supports informed decision-making. Aging
20 and disability resource centers also improve the ability of the
21 State and counties to manage resources and monitor program
22 quality through centralized data collection and evaluation.



1 (b) The legislature finds that aging and disability
2 resource centers are an integral component of health care and
3 long-term care reform and essential in the development of
4 effectively managed person-centered service systems. These
5 person-centered systems are envisioned to:

- 6 (1) Optimize choice and independence;
- 7 (2) Be served by an adequate workforce;
- 8 (3) Be transparent;
- 9 (4) Encourage personal responsibility;
- 10 (5) Provide coordinated high quality care;
- 11 (6) Be financially sustainable; and
- 12 (7) Utilize health information technology.

13 The aging and disability resource center initiative focuses on
14 improving access to long-term support and services so that an
15 individual may receive the right services at the right time and
16 in the right place.

17 (c) The legislature finds that aging and disability
18 resource centers use two broad strategies to divert individuals
19 from unnecessary long-term institutional care and ensure that
20 short-term institutional stays do not become permanent by:

- 21 (1) Intervening with options counseling in critical
22 pathways; and



1 (2) Expediting eligibility determination processes for
2 home and community-based services.
3 For example, many aging and disability resource centers have
4 collaborated to support individuals who are transitioning across
5 long-term support and service settings such as hospitals and
6 nursing homes. This collaboration has included aging and
7 disability resource centers working to raise visibility about
8 home- and community-based service options within their
9 communities, providing options counseling to potential
10 participants and their families, conducting assessments, care
11 plan development, waiver enrollment, and service initiation and
12 follow-up. The legislature also finds that aging and disability
13 resource centers play a critical role in supporting this long-
14 term care reform by improving the ability of the State and
15 counties to effectively manage the system, monitoring program
16 quality, and measuring responsiveness of state and county
17 systems of care.

18 (d) The purpose of this Act is to create a single point of
19 entry into Hawaii's long-term support and service system by:

20 (1) Establishing the aging and disability resource center
21 program and placing it under the authority of the
22 executive office on aging; and



1 (2) Appropriating moneys for the establishment of aging
2 and disability resource centers statewide.

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

6 "§349- Aging and disability resource centers;
7 established. (a) There is established the aging and disability
8 resource center program within the executive office on aging to
9 streamline access to long-term support and services by
10 integrating the full range of long-term support and services
11 into a single coordinated system.

12 (b) Aging and disability resource centers shall be located
13 in each county in areas that are easily accessed by all county
14 residents. Aging and disability resource centers shall make
15 long-term care information available to persons regardless of
16 age, income, or disability. Information shall be provided in a
17 patient-specific manner and shall include comprehensive
18 information on long-term support options, including but not
19 limited to:

20 (1) Medicaid, medicare, federal Older Americans Act
21 programs, United States Department of Veterans Affairs



- 1 programs, and other federal, state, and county
2 revenue-funded programs and services;
3 (2) Privately administered programs and services;
4 (3) Application processes for publicly funded programs;
5 (4) Services and support for people with Alzheimer's
6 disease and related dementias;
7 (5) Transportation services;
8 (6) Housing options;
9 (7) Elder rights protection;
10 (8) Hospital and nursing home discharge planning and care
11 transition;
12 (9) Health, prevention, and wellness programs;
13 (10) Support for grandparents and other elder persons who
14 are raising children; and
15 (11) Informal and family caregiver support services.
16 (c) Aging and disability resource centers shall direct
17 their services to:
18 (1) Persons who are sixty years of age and older;
19 (2) Persons of any age with physical disabilities, serious
20 mental illness, dementia, and developmental or
21 intellectual disabilities;



- 1 (3) Informal and family caregivers providing assistance to
- 2 persons needing long-term support and services;
- 3 (4) Professionals seeking assistance on behalf of their
- 4 clients or patients; and
- 5 (5) Individuals planning for their future long-term
- 6 support needs.
- 7 (d) The applicable area agencies on aging shall implement
- 8 the aging and disability resource center program within their
- 9 geographic service area."

10 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out the general revenues
11 of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,400,000 or so much thereof
12 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the
13 development of the aging and disability resource center program
14 and the establishment of aging and disability resource centers,
15 statewide.

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

18 SECTION 4. The allocation of moneys made to the counties
19 under section 3 shall constitute the State's share of funding
20 required under article XIII, section 5 of the state
21 constitution.



1 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

2 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

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Report Title:

Aging and Disability Resource Centers

Description:

Establishes the aging and disability resource center program within the executive office on aging. Appropriates funds.

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