

JAN 25 2012

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 led by the United States
4 Administration on Aging and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
5 Services to streamline access to long-term supports and services
6 for older adults, all persons with disabilities, family
7 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 and
13 have complex, fragmented, and often duplicative intake,
14 assessment, and eligibility functions. Figuring out how to
15 obtain long-term supports and services can be difficult. A
16 single, coordinated system of information and access for all
17 persons seeking long-term supports and services minimizes
18 confusion, enhances individual choice, and fosters informed

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1 decision-making. It also improves the ability of state and
2 county governments to manage resources and monitor program
3 quality through centralized data collection and evaluation.

4 Aging and disability resource centers use two broad
5 strategies to divert persons from unnecessary long-term
6 institutional care and ensure that short-term institutional
7 stays do not become permanent: (1) intervening with options
8 counseling, and (2) expediting eligibility determination
9 processes for home and community-based services. Aging and
10 disability resource centers serve a critical role in improving
11 the ability of state and county governments to effectively
12 manage the long-term supports and services system, monitor
13 program quality, and measure responsiveness of state and county
14 systems of care.

15 The purpose of this bill is to establish the aging and
16 disability resource centers by adding new sections to chapter
17 349, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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

21 "§349-___ **Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless
22 the context otherwise requires:

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1 "Aging and disability resource centers" means centralized
2 sources for older persons, persons with disabilities of all
3 ages, their families, and others to information about their
4 long-term supports and services options, and access to a single
5 entry point to public long-term supports and services.

6 "Area agency on aging" means the county office on aging in
7 each county.

8 "Dementia" means a decline in mental ability severe enough
9 to interfere with daily life.

10 "Developmental disability" means a lifelong disability
11 attributable to mental or physical impairments, manifested prior
12 to age 18.

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

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

20 "Intellectual disability" means a general disorder
21 characterized by significantly impaired cognitive functioning
22 and deficits in two or more adaptive behaviors that appears
23 before adulthood.

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

5 "Options counseling" means an interactive decision-making
6 process whereby a consumer, and the consumer's family members or
7 significant others, or both, receive information, guidance and
8 support during their deliberations to determine appropriate
9 long-term care choices for the consumer in the context of the
10 consumer's needs, preferences, values, and circumstances.

11 "Physical disability" means the broad range of disabilities
12 including orthopedic, neuromuscular, cardiovascular and
13 pulmonary disorders, which may be congenital or a result of
14 aging or injury.

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

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

21 §349-___ **Aging and disability resource centers;**
22 **established.** (a) There is established an aging and disability
23 resource center in each county to streamline access to long-term

1 supports and services by integrating the full range of long-term
2 supports and services into a single, coordinated system.

3 (b) The aging and disability resource center shall be the
4 single point of entry, available in every county, where persons
5 of all ages, incomes, and disabilities may access information in
6 a person-centered manner on the full range of long-term support
7 and service options, including but not limited to:

8 (1) Federal, state, and county revenue-funded programs and
9 services including, but not limited to, those funded
10 by Medicaid, Medicare, Older Americans Act, and the
11 Veterans Administration, and a centralized application
12 process for publicly funded long-term supports and
13 services;

14 (2) Privately administered programs and services;

15 (3) Supports and services for persons with Alzheimer's
16 disease and other related dementias;

17 (4) Transportation services;

18 (5) Housing options;

19 (6) Elder rights protection;

20 (7) Hospital and nursing home discharge planning and care
21 transition;

22 (8) Health, prevention, and wellness programs;

1 (9) Support for grandparents raising grandchildren and
2 other relatives age fifty five years or older caring
3 for children; and

4 (10) Informal and family caregiver support services.

5 (c) The aging and disability resource centers shall target
6 delivery of services to:

7 (1) Persons sixty years of age and older;

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

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

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

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

17 (d) The area agencies on aging shall implement the aging
18 and disability resource centers program within their
19 respective geographic service areas."

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$___, or so much
22 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 to

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1 establish the aging and disability resource centers in each
2 county.

3 SECTION 5. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
4 Executive Office on Aging for the purposes of this act.

5 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

6

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INTRODUCED BY: 

8

BY REQUEST

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Report Title:

Aging and Disability Resource Centers, Executive Office on Aging

Description:

Create aging and disability resource centers in each county to streamline access to long-term supports and services for older adults, persons with disabilities, and family caregivers.

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

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Health

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS.

PURPOSE: To establish the Aging and Disability Resource Centers.

MEANS: Add two new Sections to Chapter 349, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) are designed to address the frustrations many consumers and their families experience when they need to obtain information and access to supports and services. In many communities, long-term supports and services are administered by multiple agencies and have complex, fragmented, and often duplicative intake, assessment, and eligibility functions. Figuring out how to obtain supports and services can be difficult. A single, coordinated system of information and access for all persons seeking long-term support minimizes confusion, enhances individual choice, and supports informed decision-making. It also improves the ability of state and county governments to manage resources and monitor program quality through centralized data collection and evaluation.

Additionally, ADRCs are an integral component of health and long-term care reform and essential in the development of effectively managed person-centered service systems. These person-centered systems are envisioned to: optimize choice and independence; be served by an adequate workforce; be transparent through efficient and effective processes and rules; encourage personal responsibility; provide coordinated, high quality care; be

financially sustainable; and utilize health information technology. The ADRC initiative focuses on improving access to long-term supports and services so that an individual can receive the right services at the right time and in the right place. ADRCs use two broad strategies to divert individuals from unnecessary long-term institutional care and ensure that short-term institutional stays do not become permanent by: (1) intervening with options counseling, and (2) expediting eligibility determination processes for home and community-based services.

The ADRCs are operated by the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) within the counties. The ADRC will expand the role of the AAAs beyond addressing the needs of older adults to include the necessary supports and referrals for persons with disabilities.

Impact on the public: Hawaii's older adults, persons with disabilities, and their families will receive information about the full range of available long-term support options; have access to objective information, advice, counseling and assistance; be empowered to make informed decisions about their long-term supports and services; and obtain access to public and private programs.

Impact on the department and other agencies: Developing the ADRC system into its fully functioning capacity will require partnerships and memoranda of understanding with the county offices on aging (Maui County Office on Aging, Kauai Agency on Elderly Affairs, City and County of Honolulu Elderly Affairs Division, Hawaii County Office on Aging), Department of Health (Developmental Disabilities Division, Disability and Communication Access Board, Adult Mental Health Division), Department of Human Services (MedQuest Division, Adult Protective Services).

GENERAL FUND: _____

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM DESIGNATION: HTH904AJ

OTHER AFFECTED AGENCIES: County Offices on Aging; Department of Human Services.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.