

JAN 21 2011

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The State's kupuna care program (kupuna care)
2 was established in 1999 to address the needs of the aging
3 population and the issues arising from those needs. The program
4 is home- and community-based, designed to address the increasing
5 need for affordable long-term care and the desire of the elderly
6 to age in place. Kupuna care is an alternative to traditional
7 long-term care options, which are often more costly, and the
8 program fills an important gap in assistance for the elderly in
9 Hawaii.

10 Along with an aging population come issues relating to
11 disease. Several of kupuna care's core services, including
12 adult day care, attendant care, and personal care, address
13 problems brought on by diseases and other health-related issues.
14 Among the more common diseases that Hawaii's elderly battle are
15 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. The Alzheimer's
16 Association, Aloha Chapter, estimates that twenty-eight thousand
17 Hawaii residents suffer from Alzheimer's disease and related
18 dementia. Further, the Alzheimer's Association reports that



1 Alzheimer's disease is an illness of long duration, often
2 lasting eight to twelve years. Six out of ten people with
3 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia will wander during the
4 course of their illness. Wandering can be dangerous and
5 sometimes fatal, and causes stress among caregivers and family
6 members.

7 The legislature finds that there are registration services,
8 such as MedicAlert + Safe Return, through which individuals who
9 wander can be more easily located, identified, and returned
10 safely to their families. This and similar services also aid
11 police and other first responders in the safe return of elders
12 who are found but who cannot remember essential contact
13 information.

14 The purpose of this Act is to support the kupuna care
15 program by appropriating funds as a grant to the Alzheimer's
16 Association, Aloha Chapter, to support and promote participation
17 in elder registration services in the State.

18 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and
21 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
22 year 2012-2013 as a grant, pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii



1 Revised Statutes, to the Alzheimer's and Related Disorders
2 Association, Inc., dba Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter,
3 to:

4 (1) Support and promote an elder wanderer's registration
5 service, as a component of the kupuna care program, in
6 the State to protect individuals with Alzheimer's
7 disease and related dementia;

8 (2) Conduct targeted outreach throughout the State to
9 increase enrollment in the State of Hawaii in the
10 national wanderer's registry and offer scholarships
11 and subsidies to low-income families, as defined by
12 the United States Department of Health and Human
13 Services' 2010 poverty guidelines for Hawaii, who want
14 to enroll in the registry;

15 (3) Conduct annual training for first responders and other
16 community members to increase awareness and provide
17 ongoing education on best practices for search and
18 rescue efforts for people with dementia; and

19 (4) When authorized by the family, issue customized
20 updates and information through social media to
21 provide alerts to community members and assist with
22 search and rescue efforts.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

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

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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.

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