
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOME CARE LICENSING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that home care is a
2 quickly expanding component of elderly care, largely because the
3 overwhelming majority of the growing elderly population prefers
4 to age in their homes in spite of disabilities they may have.
5 Home care enables the aging population to remain in their homes
6 by providing assistance with daily living activities and by
7 providing other related in-home care. The public must be
8 assured that home care agencies are meeting minimum standards
9 when delivering care. Because many elderly live alone and are
10 facing declining mental functions, the State must ensure that
11 Hawaii's elderly population is receiving the highest quality
12 care from home care providers.

13 In the regular session of 2009, the legislature passed S.B.
14 No. 415, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, which was enacted as Act 21,
15 Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2009. The purpose of Act 21 was
16 to protect consumers of home care services by requiring home
17 care agencies to be licensed. Act 21 designates the department
18 of health as the home care licensing agency. The department of



1 health has collaborated with home care agencies, consumer
2 advocates, and other stakeholders to draft the administrative
3 rules needed to implement licensing. The drafted rules are in
4 the last stage of the approval process.

5 The department of health intends to use licensing fees
6 charged to home care agencies to cover the administrative costs
7 associated with licensing. Initial funding, however, is needed
8 to start the licensing process so that fees can be collected.
9 After the first year, licensing fees will cover the
10 administrative costs of licensing.

11 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$150,000 or so much
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the
14 establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) permanent
15 position in the department of health to facilitate licensing of
16 home care agencies.

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

19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.
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Mele Carroll

INTRODUCED BY:

Nella A. Kelihi
John M. [Signature]



H.B. NO. 2094

Report Title:

Home Care Licensing; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes initial funding to begin the licensing process for home care agencies.

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