
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOME CARE LICENSING.

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

1 SECTION 1. Home care is a quickly expanding component of
2 elderly care, largely because the overwhelming majority of the
3 growing elderly population prefers to age in their homes in
4 spite of disabilities they may have. Home care enables the
5 aging population to remain in their homes by providing
6 assistance with daily living activities and by providing other
7 related in-home care. The public must be assured that home care
8 agencies are meeting minimum standards when delivering care.
9 Because many elderly live alone and are facing declining mental
10 functions, the State must ensure that Hawaii's elderly
11 population is receiving the highest quality care from home care
12 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 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to
12 establish one full-time equivalent permanent position in the
13 department of health to facilitate licensing of home care
14 agencies. It is not the intent of the legislature that the
15 position be funded by moneys in the office of health care
16 assurance special fund established by section 321-1.4, Hawaii
17 Revised Statutes.

18 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$150,000 or so much
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the
21 establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) permanent



1 position in the department of health to facilitate licensing of
2 home care agencies.

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

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.



Report Title:

Home Care Licensing; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes initial funding to begin the licensing process for home care agencies. (SD1)

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

