
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGING.

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

PART I

1
2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that aging and disability
3 resource centers help older adults, individuals with
4 disabilities, and family caregivers find options for long-term
5 supports and services available to them in the State. The aging
6 and disability resource centers utilize a person-centered
7 process intended to navigate and streamline access to supports
8 and services. The legislature additionally finds that proper
9 funding for the aging and disability resource centers is
10 essential to ensure that these centers provide effective single
11 points of entry for individuals seeking information about
12 appropriate long-term care options. Ensuring the availability
13 of services once a consumer receives a referral, such as those
14 offered through the kupuna care program, is also critical to the
15 success of the aging and disability resource centers.

16 Furthermore, aging and disability resource centers are
17 operated by the area agencies on aging in each county. The
18 executive office on aging is responsible to ensure that



1 referrals and services are provided in a prompt and responsive
2 manner and that the aging and disability resource centers staff
3 have the appropriate skills and training to respond to kupuna
4 and caregivers' needs.

5 SECTION 2. The executive office on aging shall develop a
6 system of evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the aging
7 and disability resource centers in each county to ensure
8 alignment with federal guidance on the criteria for a full-
9 functioning aging and disability resource center. Measures
10 shall include, but not be limited to: timeliness of response by
11 the aging and disability resource center; caller satisfaction;
12 and number and percentage of kupuna and caregivers who are
13 linked to a service or resource as a result of contact with an
14 aging and disability resource center.

15 The executive office on aging shall submit a report of its
16 evaluation findings to the legislature no later than sixty days
17 prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2017 and 2018.

18 SECTION 3. The executive office on aging shall also submit
19 a progress report to the legislature no later than sixty days
20 prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2017 and 2018
21 on its implementation of the federal No Wrong Door/aging and



1 disability resource center network implementation grant it
2 received in 2015.

3 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,700,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the
6 aging and disability resource centers.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
8 health for the purposes of this part.

9 PART II

10 SECTION 5. The legislature finds that every year in
11 Hawaii, on average eighty-five seniors die, 1,960 are
12 hospitalized, and 8,700 are treated in emergency departments as
13 a result of falls. Falls among the elderly also result in
14 almost \$1,200,000 in hospital and physician charges. In
15 recognition of this critical public health issue, Act 153,
16 Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, established a fall prevention and
17 early detection services coordinator position within the
18 department of health's emergency medical services and injury
19 prevention system branch. This position enables the department
20 of health to support a coordinated statewide approach to prevent
21 and reduce the impact of falls among older adults. Act 153



1 funded a new position for a fall prevention and early detection
2 coordinator for fiscal year 2014 to 2015.

3 The legislature further finds that access to fall
4 prevention services and programs would significantly reduce
5 costs associated with falls in the elderly by expediting
6 treatment, minimizing serious long-term consequences, reducing
7 the extent of the injury, and in some instances, avoiding death.

8 Falls among the elderly are a significant public health
9 issue. Yet, currently, there are insufficient resources to
10 develop a coordinated statewide approach to reduce and promptly
11 detect falls among the elderly. The program serves as a focal
12 point for statewide injury prevention and detection efforts to
13 ensure multidisciplinary support, coordination of prevention and
14 detection efforts, and continuity of implementation and
15 accountability.

16 The purpose of this part is to assure a continued focus on
17 fall prevention in Hawaii, which will ultimately result in
18 longer, healthier lives for the State's aging population.

19 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$32,000 or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for fall
2 prevention and early detection services for the elderly.

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

5 PART III

6 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.



Report Title:

Aging and Disability Resource Centers; Fall Prevention;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) and for fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly. Requires the Executive Office on Aging to submit a report to the Legislature no later than 60 days prior to the convening of the Regular Sessions of 2017 and 2018 on its progress to develop a system of evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the ADRCs in each county and to implement the federal No Wrong Door/ADRC network implementation grant.
(HB1878 CD1)

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

