
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's aging
2 population, similar to the rest of the United States, is rapidly
3 increasing as more and more residents born during the baby-boom
4 era of 1946-1964 turn sixty years of age. Between 1980 and
5 2010, the number of adults in Hawaii over the age of sixty grew
6 by 139.8 per cent, eclipsing the growth of the general
7 population, which increased by 34.2 per cent during the same
8 period. The increase in the number of adults in Hawaii over the
9 age of eighty-five during this period is even more extreme at
10 431.5 per cent. In addition, it is projected that Hawaii's
11 adult population over the age of sixty will comprise 29.7 per
12 cent of the total population by 2035.

13 This significant increase in Hawaii's elder population and
14 the concomitant increase in demand for services, particularly
15 those that allow for aging in place, will require an ongoing
16 commitment to ensure that Hawaii's kupuna are adequately cared
17 for.



1 The legislature finds that the kupuna care program was
2 enacted in 1999 to help frail and vulnerable persons over the
3 age of sixty age in place by leading independent, meaningful,
4 and dignified lives in their own homes and communities. One of
5 the principles of the program is that long-term care should be
6 available to everyone, regardless of government or private
7 insurance coverage or eligibility for other assistance programs,
8 such as Medicaid and supportive and nutrition services under
9 Title III of the federal Older Americans Act. The kupuna care
10 program is considered to be an alternative to traditional long-
11 term care options and uses state funds to provide a continuum of
12 home and community based supports that form a safety net for all
13 kupuna and their caregivers.

14 Access to the kupuna care program for all seniors is
15 necessary to maintain a consistent continuum of care for
16 vulnerable older persons, particularly as individuals' access to
17 resources, support systems, and capacity change over time. The
18 most successful programs for aging-in-place recognize and build
19 upon integrated health and social services. Kupuna care is
20 comprised of nine core services that support individuals in need
21 of assistance to perform some of the basic activities of daily



1 living and instrumental activities of daily living. Basic
2 activities of daily living include transferring from bed to
3 chair, moving about within the home, bathing, dressing,
4 toileting, and eating. Instrumental activities of daily living
5 include preparing a meal, shopping, managing medications,
6 laundry, using the telephone, managing money, housekeeping, and
7 using available transportation. Kupuna care also provides core
8 services, including personal care, homemaking, chores, home
9 delivered meals, adult day care, case management, assisted
10 transportation, regular transportation, and attendant care.

11 In addition to the foregoing services, kupuna care clients
12 may select services from a contracted provider or have the
13 option for a participant-directed approach to home and community
14 based services. Individuals who are assessed and deemed
15 eligible for kupuna care core services will have services
16 authorized based on the needs identified within their respective
17 individual support plan. In the participant-directed model, an
18 individual exercises decision-making authority to use an
19 allotment of public funds to purchase and manage a wide array of
20 supports that meet the individual's unique needs that complement



1 the ongoing efforts of family caregivers and the individual's
2 personal and financial resources.

3 The legislature further finds that funding for the kupuna
4 care program is critical as the population aged sixty and older
5 is increasing rapidly. The additional funding provided by this
6 Act would enable the executive office on aging to target and
7 triage additional clients according to each individual's
8 vulnerability by utilizing the comprehensive person-centered
9 intake and assessment tools developed statewide for targeting
10 public supports to persons in greatest need.

11 The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation to the
12 department of health for the kupuna care program.

13 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$4,145,695 or so much
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
16 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
17 2018-2019 for the kupuna care program; provided that any funds
18 appropriated pursuant to this section shall be in addition to
19 and shall not supplant any portion of the base budget of the
20 executive office on aging.



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

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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H.B. NO. 608

Report Title:

Kupuna Caucus; Kupuna Care; Appropriation

Description:

Makes an appropriation to the department of health for the kupuna care program.

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