
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE HAWAII STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
UPDATE THE 2013 WHITE PAPER ON ACTIVE AGING AND PROVIDE A
FINAL REPORT ON ITS UPDATED VERSION NO LATER THAN THE START
OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF 2022.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that Hawaii's older adult
2 population is growing rapidly and at a constantly increasing
3 pace; and
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5 WHEREAS, in response, the State has addressed the needs of
6 "old-old" or "functionally frail" older persons through
7 initiatives to build infrastructure for eldercare, focusing
8 principally on the medically-defined needs of the frail,
9 disabled, and dependent populations; and
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11 WHEREAS, although these initiatives are vital to the health
12 and well-being of Hawaii's older person population, initiatives
13 focusing on the emerging "young-old" or "functionally able"
14 population will help to cultivate the State's older persons as a
15 resource and community asset that can be tapped for their
16 experience, skills, talents, social networks, and time; and
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18 WHEREAS, the Legislature further finds that there is a
19 paradigm shift in aging policy widely acknowledged within the
20 professional field of gerontology that calls for changing the
21 view of aging from that of a pathology to that of aging as an
22 asset; and
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24 WHEREAS, as part of this paradigm shift, the perspective
25 known as active aging has emerged, which emphasizes the process
26 of optimizing opportunities for health, security, and
27 participation in society in order to enhance the quality of life
28 as people age; and



1 WHEREAS, the framework of active aging is still evolving,
2 but currently advocates for promoting high cognitive and
3 physical function and maintaining engagement in life, rather
4 than solely focusing on avoiding disease and disability; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the Executive Office on
7 Aging released a white paper in 2013 entitled "Hawaii's 2020
8 Vision: The State of Active Aging", that outlined a plan to
9 implement an active aging initiative; and
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11 WHEREAS, this white paper provides a path toward a policy
12 of active aging while the specific details of the initiative are
13 updated and finalized; and
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15 WHEREAS, embracing a policy of active aging has the
16 potential to provide a great value to the health and well-being
17 of Hawaii's older population as well as to communities
18 throughout the State of Hawaii; now, therefore,
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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
21 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
22 2019, that the State Executive Office on Aging is requested to
23 update the 2013 white paper on active aging to help create a new
24 social policy paradigm; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report address and include
27 the following:
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- 29 (1) Coordination with the four county agencies on aging,
30 or the appropriate division;
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- 32 (2) A review of existing policies and best practices
33 related to active aging in the State;
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- 35 (3) Health care practices, with attention to physical,
36 emotional, mental, nutritional, and medical fitness;
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- 38 (4) Financial fitness measures to enable older adults to
39 have the appropriate tools and programs in place to
40 ensure the financial health necessary for their later
41 years;
42
- (5) Intergenerational equity;



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- 2 (6) Proposals to eliminate ageism;
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- 4 (7) The promotion of new social roles and purposes for
- 5 older persons;
- 6
- 7 (8) A review of policies and practices related to active
- 8 aging, including the incorporation of any
- 9 recommendations for subsequent State plans on aging;
- 10 and
- 11
- 12 (9) Reporting on existing noteworthy active aging programs
- 13 and their projects in Hawaii; and
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- 15 (10) Any additional funding sources that may be utilized;
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- 17 (11) Partnerships with the University of Hawaii System; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Executive Office on
20 Aging shall provide an interim report on its progress to the
21 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
22 the Regular Session of 2020; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Executive Office on
25 Aging shall provide a final report to the Legislature no later
26 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
27 of 2022; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the State Executive
31 Office on Aging; the Maui County Office on Aging; the County of
32 Kauai Agency on Elderly Affairs; the Elderly Affairs Division of
33 the City and County of Honolulu; the Hawai'i County Office on
34 Aging; and the Center on Aging at the University of Hawaii at
35 Manoa.

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