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SENATE 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 2021.

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that Hawaii's older adult population is growing rapidly and at a constantly increasing pace; and

WHEREAS, in response, the State has addressed the needs of "old-old" or "functionally frail" older persons through initiatives to build infrastructure for eldercare, focusing principally on the medically-defined needs of the frail, disabled, and dependent populations; and

WHEREAS, although these initiatives are vital to the health and well-being of Hawaii's older person population, initiatives focusing on the emerging "young-old" or "functionally able" population will help to cultivate the State's older persons as a resource and community asset that can be tapped for their experience, skills, talents, social networks, and time; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature further finds that there is a paradigm shift in aging policy widely acknowledged within the professional field of gerontology that calls for changing the view of aging from that of a pathology to that of aging as an asset; and

WHEREAS, as part of this paradigm shift, the perspective known as active aging has emerged, which emphasizes the process of optimizing opportunities for health, security, and participation in society in order to enhance the quality of life as people age; and

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WHEREAS, the framework of active aging is still evolving, but currently advocates for promoting high cognitive and physical function and maintaining engagement in life, rather than solely focusing on avoiding disease and disability; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the Executive Office on Aging released a white paper in 2013 entitled "Hawaii's 2020 Vision: The State of Active Aging", that outlined a plan to implement an active aging initiative; and

WHEREAS, this white paper provides a path toward a policy of active aging while the specific details of the initiative are updated and finalized; and

WHEREAS, embracing a policy of active aging has the potential to provide a great value to the health and well-being of Hawaii's older population as well as to communities throughout the State of Hawaii; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the State Executive Office on Aging is requested to update the 2013 white paper on active aging to help create a new social policy paradigm; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report address and include the following:

(1) Coordination with the four county agencies on aging, or the appropriate division;

(2) A review of existing policies and best practices related to active aging in the State;

(3) Health care practices, with attention to physical, emotional, mental, nutritional, and medical fitness;

(4) Financial fitness measures to enable older adults to have the appropriate tools and programs in place to ensure the financial health necessary for their later years;

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- (5) Intergenerational equity;
- (6) Proposals to eliminate ageism;
- (7) The promotion of new social roles and purposes for older persons;
- A review of policies and practices related to active (8) aging, including the incorporation of any recommendations for subsequent State plans on aging; and
- (9) Reporting on existing noteworthy active aging programs and their projects in Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Executive Office on Aging shall provide an interim report on its progress to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Executive Office on Aging shall provide a final report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2021; and

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

OFFERED BY:

S.R. NO. **33**

Clarena Whishiles

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