

JAN 17 2020

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Alzheimer's is the
2 most expensive disease in America, costing more than cancer and
3 heart disease. In 2019, the direct costs to American society of
4 caring for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias totaled an
5 estimated \$290,000,000,000. The average costs of a person with
6 dementia are \$287,000 during the last five years of life. This
7 compares with \$175,000 for a person with heart disease and
8 \$173,000 for someone with cancer.

9 In Hawaii, the medicaid costs of caring for people with
10 Alzheimer's disease totaled \$232,000,000 in 2019, with \$17,965
11 in per capita medicare spending, and unpaid caregiver time
12 valued at \$941,000,000.

13 Less than one per cent of those diagnosed with Alzheimer's
14 disease receive comprehensive care planning services, despite
15 such services being eligible under medicaid and medicare. Those
16 diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias who



1 engage in comprehensive care planning can reduce their financial
2 burden and significantly improve their overall quality of life.

3 The legislature further finds that consultation with
4 medical professionals will enable more people to adequately plan
5 for comprehensive care after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's
6 disease and related dementias.

7 The purpose of this Act is to establish an outreach program
8 in the department of health to inform medical professionals
9 participating in medicare that comprehensive care planning
10 services for those with Alzheimer's disease and related
11 dementias is a covered benefit under the medicare program.

12 SECTION 2. The department of health shall establish an
13 outreach program to conduct a comprehensive, one-time education
14 initiative informing physicians and appropriate non-physician
15 practitioners participating in the medicare program that
16 comprehensive care planning services for those with Alzheimer's
17 disease and related dementias is a covered benefit under the
18 medicare program. The outreach program shall:

- 19 (1) Include materials on appropriate diagnostic
20 evaluations;



- 1 (2) Include explanations of the requirements for
- 2 eligibility for such services; and
- 3 (3) Submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
- 4 including a review of the barriers to individuals
- 5 receiving care planning services, how the rate of
- 6 usage can be increased, and any proposed legislation,
- 7 to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to
- 8 the convening of the regular session of 2021.


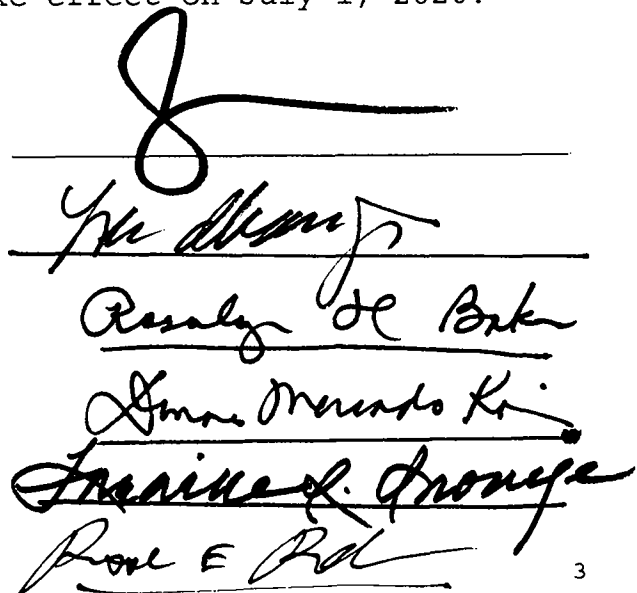
9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ _____ or so
 11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
 12 the outreach program established pursuant to this Act.

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

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

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INTRODUCED BY:

	
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S.B. NO. 2340

Clarence W. Fischer

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Kal Hood


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S.B. NO. 2340

Report Title:

Department of Health; Alzheimer's Disease; Comprehensive Care Planning; Kupuna Caucus

Description:

Establishes an outreach program in the department of health to inform physicians and appropriate non-physician practitioners participating in medicare that comprehensive care planning services for those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias is a covered benefit under medicare.

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