
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, IN COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING AND COUNTY OF HAWAI'I OFFICE OF AGING, TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE NECESSITY AND FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A SENIOR LIVING CENTER IN THE KA'Ū DISTRICT.

1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i's aging population is projected to continue
2 to grow; and
3

4 WHEREAS, nineteen percent of Hawai'i's existing population
5 consists of seniors, sixty-five years of age and older; and
6

7 WHEREAS, a recent report by the Centers for Disease Control
8 and Prevention found that Hawai'i has the highest life expectancy
9 in the United States for those over sixty-five years of age; and
10

11 WHEREAS, for purposes of this study, data from the 2020
12 Decennial Census provides the most recent and accurate
13 information; and
14

15 WHEREAS, according to the American Community Survey 2019
16 five-year estimates, the district of Ka'ū supports a population
17 of 9,885 individuals, of which 2,519 or 25.5 percent were sixty
18 years of age or older; and
19

20 WHEREAS, seventeen percent of Ka'ū's elderly population live
21 below the poverty level; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the County of Hawai'i Office of Aging is
24 responsible for assessing the needs of the county's elderly
25 adult population and determining the types and cost of services
26 required to meet those needs; and
27

28 WHEREAS, the County of Hawai'i Office of Aging serves
29 approximately two hundred forty-eight individuals, or twenty-
30 five percent of the elderly population in Ka'ū through its home



1 and community-based service programs, which aim to assist
2 elderly adults in remaining active and independent; and

3
4 WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development,
5 and Tourism is well-positioned to coordinate with the Executive
6 Office on Aging and County of Hawai'i Office of Aging to conduct
7 a comprehensive study to identify the need for improved services
8 for the elderly population residing in the Ka'u district, Hawai'i
9 island; now, therefore,

10
11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
12 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
13 that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and
14 Tourism, in coordination and cooperation with the Executive
15 Office on Aging and County of Hawai'i Office of Aging, is
16 requested to conduct a study regarding the necessity and
17 feasibility of establishing a senior living center to support
18 the elderly population of the Ka'u district and submit a report
19 of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the
20 County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor no later than January 1,
21 2023; and

22
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i;
25 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;
26 Director of the Executive Office on Aging; and Administrator of
27 the County of Hawai'i Office of Aging.

