

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

179

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10 , 2021

RE: H.B. No. 988
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness, to which was referred H.B. No. 988 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SERVICES FOR KUPUNA,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to amend kupuna care and caregiver support services laws to:

- (1) Expand the definition of "coach" to include an individual that assists the care recipient and caregiver with enrollment into programs and completing necessary forms;
- (2) Amend the definition of "person-centered support plan" to mean a plan developed by a care recipient and the recipient's qualified caregiver that identifies the needs of the care recipient and allows the caregiver to remain in the workforce;
- (3) Allow qualified caregivers to continue providing services even if they work less than thirty hours a week or are unemployed during a declared state of emergency;
- (4) Add traditional services and kupuna caregiver-directed services to the Kupuna Caregivers Program; and

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- (5) Allow funds allocated to qualified caregivers under the Kupuna Caregivers Program to be issued directly to a financial management service provider.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services, Executive Office on Aging, Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, AARP Hawaii, Kupuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition, Alzheimer's Association, Faith Action for Community Equity, and sixteen individuals.

Your Committee finds that because of the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic, many kupuna caregivers lost their jobs and many others who worked for contracted service providers either closed or decreased their services. Your Committee further finds that providing more flexibility to kupuna caregivers during the ongoing economic uncertainty will provide area agencies on aging with more options to better serve kupuna and their caregivers.


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2060, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 988, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 988, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health, Human
Services, & Homelessness,



RYAN I. YAMANE, Chair

