

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1388

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

July 3, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine Nakamura
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 3, 2025, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 474, H.D. 2,
S.D. 1, C.D. 1

RELATING TO FALL PREVENTION.
ACT 285

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D." in a cursive style.

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FALL PREVENTION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that unintentional falls
2 among seniors age sixty-five years and older in Hawaii are the
3 leading cause of fatal injuries (an average of forty-nine per
4 cent) and injury-related emergency room visits (an average of
5 sixty-one per cent). On average, one hundred and fourteen
6 seniors die, ten thousand are treated in hospitals, and six
7 thousand one hundred are treated in emergency departments as a
8 result of falls.

9 The legislature further finds that falls among the elderly
10 also result in over \$100,000,000 in combined hospital charges
11 each year. In recognition of this critical public health issue,
12 Act 153, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014 (Act 153), established and
13 provided funding for a fall prevention and early detection
14 coordinator position within the department of health's emergency
15 medical services and injury prevention system branch. This
16 position enables the department of health to support a



1 coordinated statewide approach to prevent and reduce the impact
2 of falls among older adults.

3 The legislature also finds that access to fall prevention
4 services and programs would significantly reduce costs
5 associated with falls among older adults by expediting
6 treatment, minimize serious long-term consequences, reduce the
7 extent of the injury, and, in some instances, avoid death.

8 Falls among older adults are a significant public health
9 issue. Yet, there are insufficient resources to develop a
10 coordinated statewide approach to reduce and promptly detect
11 falls among seniors. A dedicated fall prevention program can
12 serve as a focal point for statewide injury prevention and
13 detection efforts to ensure multidisciplinary support,
14 coordination of prevention and detection efforts, and continuity
15 of implementation and accountability.

16 The legislature additionally finds that continued support
17 of fall prevention programs and services ultimately results in
18 longer, healthier lives for the State's aging population.

19 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
20 department of health for the current fall prevention campaign.



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the
4 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
5 2026-2027 for the department of health's current fall prevention
6 campaign.

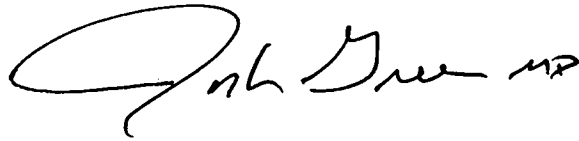
7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
8 of health for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.



H.B. NO. 474
H.D. 2
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 3rd day of July, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a stylized "G".

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 474, HD 2, SD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 30, 2025
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025.



Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives





Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Date: April 30, 2025
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate
of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2025.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate