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H.B. NO. 1231

A Bill for an Act Relating to Case Management Coordination Program.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the case management coordination program for Maui, Kauai, and rural Oahu is presently staffed by two permanent public health nurses positions and ten limited-term appointment positions. The continued employment of limited-term appointment positions is negating the full effectiveness of the intent of the program. Because these employees naturally prefer secure, permanent assignments outside of the case management coordination program, the current situation is not conducive to retaining staff members. The elderly population requires a stable case management staff since relationships and trusts can best be established and fostered on a long-term basis.

The legislature finds that in keeping with the dramatic increase in the proportion of the elderly in the general population and the steady rise in longevity rates among these individuals, there is a growing need for a comprehensive array of community-based long term care services adequate to sustain the seniors in their communities and in their homes. The case management coordination program is a unique community-based case management team model, which focuses on a developmental, interdisciplinary, case management system coordinated by public health nurses. The goal of the case management coordination program is to help the frail

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elderly get the support needed to achieve the highest possible level of health and functional independence.

SECTION 2. The ten department of health employees, currently not in civil service and occupying limited-term appointed public health nursing positions, which includes five registered professional nurses, four paramedical assistants, and one clerk typist, in the case management coordination program for Maui, Kauai, and rural Oahu shall be converted to permanent civil service status within the meaning of chapters 76 and 77, Hawaii Revised Statutes, without the necessity of examination, and shall be accorded all of the rights, benefits, and privileges of other civil service employees, including seniority, prior service credit, and vacation and sick leave credits. Positions held by employees converted to civil service status shall be assigned by the director of personnel services to appropriate classes in the position classification plan, and the employees shall be paid in accordance with the salary ranges to which the classes are assigned; provided that employees receiving a salary above the minimum rate may be paid at the rate higher than the minimum rate but not exceeding the highest pay rate in the appropriate salary range.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 13, 1989.)