

**ACT 124**

H.B. NO. 468

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Healthy Aging Partnership Program.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii healthy aging partnership program was established in 2003 to improve the health status of older adults by empowering residents to make healthy decisions and engage in health-

ier lifestyles. Since its formation, the healthy aging partnership program has successfully adapted evidence-based health promotion programs and disease prevention programs for the multicultural population in Hawaii. Participants may engage in two evidenced-based interventions. First, better choices better health - *ke ola pono*, also known nationwide as the chronic disease self-management program, is an evidence-based program where individuals with chronic or ongoing medical conditions can learn how to effectively manage their health conditions to improve their quality of life. The second intervention is EnhanceFitness, which is an effective, research-driven exercise program to improve the overall functional fitness and well-being of older adults. Because of the many accomplishments of the healthy aging partnership program, the program received the 2013 multicultural aging award from the American Society on Aging. This accomplishment brought further recognition to the program's role in improving the health of Hawaii's diverse aging population.

The legislature finds that the healthy aging partnership program received funding for fiscal year 2017-2018 through Act 103, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017. However, the program did not receive funding for fiscal year 2018-2019. Without adequate funding, the program will have to close and the executive office on aging will not be able to meet the first goal of the Hawaii state plan on aging, which strives to maximize opportunities for older adults to age well, remain active, and enjoy life in their communities.

The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the healthy aging partnership program to further the program's important role in improving the health and well-being of Hawaii's kupuna.

**SECTION 2.** There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$550,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the healthy aging partnership program to further the program's important role in improving the health and well-being of Hawaii's kupuna.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the executive office on aging of the department of health for the purposes of this Act.

**SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

(Approved June 25, 2019.)