

ACT 125

H.B. NO. 471

A Bill for an Act Relating to Aging.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the policy advisory board for elder affairs has a majority of members who are elders and others who live on the neighbor islands. This contributes to the difficulty of meeting current quorum requirements for meetings because, per the state sunshine law, meetings cannot be held or minutes approved without quorum. Additionally, because there is no specific statutory definition of quorum for the policy advisory board for elder affairs, the default quorum is set at fifty per cent of members plus one.

The purpose of this Act is to establish quorum requirements for the policy advisory board for elder affairs.

SECTION 2. Section 349-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) There shall be a policy advisory board for elder affairs, appointed by the governor under section 26-34. The board shall advise the director in but not limited to the following areas:

- (1) The identification of issues and alternative approaches to solutions;
- (2) The development of position statements and papers;
- (3) Advocacy and legislative actions; and
- (4) Program development and operations.

The board shall consist of not less than fifteen nor more than twenty-one members, a majority of whom are over sixty years of age and who shall be selected on the basis of their interests and knowledge in and their ability to make contributions to the solution of problems relating to aging, and shall include at least one member from the county of Hawaii, one member from the county of Maui, one member from the county of Kauai, and one member from the city and county of Honolulu. There may be up to ten members who shall serve as ex officio~~[,]~~ nonvoting members and may consist of the heads of the following agencies that provide services or programs affecting elders: health, human services, education, labor and industrial relations, commerce and consumer affairs, University of Hawaii, transportation, the state retirement system, and, by invitation, the Hawaii representatives of the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the Social Security Administration. Ex officio members may delegate their board responsibilities to another member of their agency. Of the non ex officio members, one-third of the members shall be appointed for the term of four years, one-third for the term of three years, and one-third for the term of two years; and thereafter the terms of office of each member shall be four years. The members shall serve without compensation, but shall be paid their necessary expenses in attending meetings and carrying out the responsibilities of the board. The chairperson shall be elected annually from the nongovernmental members of the board. There shall be not less than twelve meetings of the board each year. Quorum shall be a majority of the currently serving members, but in no event fewer than eight members shall constitute a quorum.”

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 25, 2019.)