
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State is
2 fortunate to have the highest life expectancy in the United
3 States with a record of 80.7 years. The number of kupuna living
4 to be over eighty, ninety, and even one hundred, continues to
5 grow. As people age, they are more likely to experience
6 differing abilities, with 27.8 per cent of older adults living
7 with a disability. This likelihood increases to 39.5 per cent
8 for the middle-old (ages seventy-five through eighty-four) and
9 70.9 per cent for the oldest-old (aged eighty-five years or
10 older) living with a disability. According to the Centers for
11 Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the ten leading causes of
12 death in the State are heart disease, cancer, stroke, accidents,
13 Alzheimer's disease, chronic lower respiratory disease,
14 coronavirus disease 2019, diabetes, influenza or pneumonia, and
15 kidney disease. Moreover, three out of ten deaths in the State
16 are due to cardiovascular disease, which is largely preventable.
17 In addition, there are approximately twenty-nine thousand



1 persons aged sixty-five and older living with Alzheimer's
2 disease in the State who are cared for by fifty-one thousand
3 family caregivers. According to the CDC, one in nine adults
4 forty-five years or older in the State report experiencing
5 subjective cognitive decline, as they notice memory problems
6 that have been getting worse, and within this group, seventy-
7 four per cent have at least one chronic condition. By 2025, the
8 number of people living with Alzheimer's disease in the State is
9 expected to increase to thirty-five thousand, a more than twenty
10 per cent increase from 2020.

11 The legislature further finds that virtually all of the
12 State's seniors prefer to age in place at home rather than in a
13 care home or institution, with the option of receiving
14 community-based services, and that many seniors will require
15 more intensive services and caregiving at the end of their
16 lives. Therefore, long-term care of the State's aging
17 population is a matter of statewide concern.

18 The legislature further finds that the costs of
19 institutional care have escalated beyond the financial means of
20 most seniors. The State's portion of medicaid expenditures has
21 increased steadily over the years and is projected to increase



1 significantly as baby boomers enter retirement. As the State's
2 population ages, the number of frail and disabled individuals
3 has increased, placing a precipitous demand on the need for
4 long-term care services, as well as significant cost pressures
5 on the state budget. The legislature therefore finds that there
6 is an urgent need to make quality long-term care services as
7 accessible, efficient, and effective as possible.

8 The legislature further finds that it is necessary to
9 explore public and private sector approaches to support payment
10 for long-term care services, which can assist seniors to age in
11 place and prevent the State from becoming fiscally liable for
12 unsustainable costs under medicaid.

13 Act 224, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, established a long-
14 term care commission within the social science research
15 institute of the university of Hawaii college of social sciences
16 to identify needed reforms of the long-term care system. The
17 commission produced a report entitled "Long-Term Care Reform in
18 Hawaii: Report of the Hawaii Long-Term Care Commission, Final
19 Report", dated January 18, 2012. Several bills were introduced
20 during the regular session of 2012 to adopt the commission's
21 recommendations. However, only one bill was adopted, which



1 established the kupuna care program within the executive office
2 on aging.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish and
4 appropriate funds for:

5 (1) A long-term care master plan that shall incorporate
6 certain components; and

7 (2) A long-term care planner within the executive office
8 on aging to oversee the development and implementation
9 of a long-term care master plan.

10 SECTION 2. (a) The executive office on aging shall
11 establish a comprehensive long-term care master plan to:

12 (1) Identify essential components to ensure the
13 availability of a full continuum of long-term care
14 services, including homes, skilled nursing
15 institutions, and other institutional and community-
16 based services;

17 (2) Identify needed reforms to establish a sustainable
18 long-term care system;

19 (3) Research programmatic changes and resources necessary
20 to meet the State's long-term care public policy
21 goals; and



1 (4) Explore funding options to support the provision of
2 long-term care services, including the recruitment,
3 training, and retention of a skilled workforce.

4 (b) The executive office on aging shall submit a report of
5 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
6 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
7 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

8 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
9 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
10 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
11 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
12 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure
13 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
14 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes
15 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
16 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
17 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
18 ceiling are that:

19 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
20 serve the public interest; and



1 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
2 addressed by this Act.

3 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the
6 executive office on aging to establish the comprehensive long-
7 term care master plan pursuant to section 2 of this Act.

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

10 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to
13 establish and fund one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) long-term
14 care planner position within the executive office on aging to
15 oversee the development and implementation of the comprehensive
16 long-term care master plan identified in section 2 of this Act.

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

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1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY: _____



JAN 22 2024



H.B. NO. 2224

Report Title:

EOA; Long-Term Care; Master Plan; Report; Positions; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Executive Office on Aging to create a comprehensive long-term care master plan to accomplish long-term care policy goals that, when implemented, ensure the availability of a full continuum of institutional and community-based services.

Establishes a long-term care planner position within the EOA to oversee the development and implementation of the long-term care master plan. Requires the EOA to submit a report to the Legislature. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Appropriates funds.

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