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 has made it a priority to find |
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| 2 | solutions to Hawaii's predicted long-term care crisis based on |
| 3 | the state's rapidly aging population. Many families in Hawaii |
| 4 | choose to care for elderly or disabled family members in their |
| 5 | homes rather than a facility. However, in-home care does not |
| 6 | allow the same financing options through Medicaid as licensed |
| 7 | nursing facilities. Additionally, the medical needs of the |
| 8 | person being cared for may change, thereby requiring a different |
| 9 | type of care. |
| 10 | It is the intent of the Legislature to promote independence |
| 11 | and choice by providing individuals who are eligible under |
| 12 | Medicaid to receive nursing facility care the full spectrum of |
| 13 | service options available, including the following: |
| 14 | (1) Admittance to a nursing facility; |
| 15 | (2) The option to remain in the individual's community and |
| 16 | receive home- and community-based long-term care, |
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support, and services; and

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| 1 | (3) The option to relocate from a nursing facility back to |
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| 2 | the individual's community and to receive home- and |
| 3 | community-based long-term care, support, and services. |
| 4 | SECTION 2. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is |
| 5 | amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated |
| 6 | and to read as follows: |
| 7 | "§346- Medicaid funds; transfer. (a) The department |
| 8 | shall transfer Medicaid funds from a nursing facility or long- |
| 9 | term care based facility to home- or community-based long-term |
| 10 | care, support, and services, when an individual chooses to |
| 11 | remain in the individual's community or to relocate from a |
| 12 | nursing facility to receive home- and community-based long-term |
| 13 | care, support, and services. |
| 14 | (b) The costs for home- and community-based services may |
| 15 | not exceed, on an average per capita basis, the total |
| 16 | expenditures that would have been incurred if the individual |
| 17 | received facility-based long-term care, services, or support. |
| 18 | (c) The department shall establish rules pursuant to |
| 19 | chapter 91 to carry out the purposes of this section." |
| 20 | SEÇTION 3. The department of human services shall apply |
| 21 | for all waivers and grants necessary to implement this Act. |

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- 1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008,
- 2 except that section 2 shall take effect no later than one year
- 3 after receiving any waivers and grants necessary to implement
- 4 this Act.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 1 1 2008

Report Title:

Long-term Care; Medicaid; Transfer of Funds

Description:

Allows persons eligible to receive Medicaid funds for care at nursing home facilities to remain at home and receive home and community-based long-term care.