
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAREGIVING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that over 240,000 Hawaii
2 residents are age sixty or older. Family caregivers provide
3 care for a large percentage of these older adults, who
4 overwhelmingly prefer to live and receive care in their homes.
5 However, there are also many older adults who need care, but do
6 not have family living in Hawaii who can assist them.

7 As the baby boomer generation ages, the percentage of older
8 adults in the community will increase. By 2020, it is projected
9 that more than one in four individuals will be age sixty or
10 older. As a result, paid caregiving services, including those
11 in institutional settings, will become even less available and
12 less affordable to the older adult population. The legislature
13 finds that the level of volunteer caregiving provided to older
14 adults will have to increase substantially to serve the
15 increased number of older adults with caregiving needs.

16 The legislature further finds that many Hawaii residents
17 volunteer their time for the benefit of others, and a structured



1 program that offers credit to them for their volunteered
2 caregiving hours could substantially increase the level of
3 caregiving services available to older adults. Programs that
4 encourage volunteer reciprocity among residents have been
5 successful in Florida and Missouri, and provide a model for
6 Hawaii to replicate.

7 For example, residents who volunteer time to provide
8 caregiving services, such as transportation or chore services,
9 could receive a credit for each volunteer hour provided.
10 Accumulated volunteer-hours could then be used by the caregiver
11 to acquire services that they need or donated to another person.
12 This type of program encourages residents to volunteer to help
13 others by enabling them to bank their volunteer-hours for their
14 own future use.

15 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the
16 executive office on aging to develop and implement a volunteer-
17 hours exchange pilot program.

18 SECTION 2. (a) The executive office on aging shall
19 develop and implement a volunteer-hours exchange pilot program.

20 (b) In designing and implementing the volunteer-hours
21 exchange pilot program, the executive office on aging shall:



1 (1) Research best practices, including how similar
 2 programs have been designed and implemented in other
 3 states, such as Florida and Missouri, and other
 4 countries;

5 (2) Consult with community stakeholders; and

6 (3) Implement the program in two communities.

7 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
 9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and
 10 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
 11 year 2008-2009, for the executive office on aging to develop and
 12 implement a volunteer-hours exchange pilot program pursuant to
 13 section 2.

14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 15 of health for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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Report Title:

Caregiving; Volunteer-Hours Exchange Pilot Program

Description:

Appropriates funds for the executive office on aging to develop and implement a volunteer-hours exchange pilot program in two communities.

