
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that with 16.5 per cent
2 of Hawaii's population being sixty-five years or older, and with
3 projections of an increase to 19.4 per cent by 2020 and 23 per
4 cent by 2030, caring for Hawaii's kupuna is a high priority of
5 the legislature.

6 The legislature finds that currently there are 154,000
7 unpaid family caregivers in Hawaii who are taking care of their
8 parents, spouse, or other relatives who need extra care. Family
9 caregivers play a crucial role in the State's health care system
10 by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is
11 imperative to ensure that while caregivers are looking after
12 their loved ones, the caregivers must also take care of
13 themselves and have the necessary support and services to
14 sustain their own health as well as the health of the family
15 member for whom they are caring.

16 To address this issue, the kupuna caregivers program was
17 established on July 6, 2017, aiming to provide families in need



1 of extra support services with additional resources to cover a
2 variety of services such as: adult day care, assisted
3 transportation, homemaker services, and many more important
4 services to qualified kupuna. The program ensures that
5 caregivers continue earning their own retirement benefits, which
6 helps businesses retain experienced workers and provides peace
7 of mind that loved kupuna are well cared for while caregivers
8 remain in the workforce. This program allows caregivers who are
9 juggling their own employment with their caregiving
10 responsibilities to simultaneously take care of their kupuna and
11 themselves.

12 Since the establishment of the kupuna caregivers program,
13 the executive office on aging has reportedly received hundreds
14 of calls from Hawaii residents wishing to receive the benefits
15 of the program. While the creation of the program was an
16 important first step, the legislature believes that the program
17 requires additional second year funding to have the impact it
18 needs. With the high volume of residents showing interest in
19 the program, the current funding needs to be increased in order
20 to better serve the people of Hawaii.

21 The purpose of this Act is to:



(1) Appropriate funds for the implementation of the kupuna caregivers program; and

(2) Require the executive office on aging to provide additional information regarding the outcomes of the kupuna caregivers program in its annual report on elder programs.

SECTION 2. Section 349-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) The planning and administrative services division shall engage in the following activities, including but not limited to:

(1) Preparation and submission of programs and budgets;

(2) Preparation of an annual evaluation report on elder programs for the governor and legislature[+] which shall include a section detailing outcomes of the kupuna caregivers program, including but not limited to, evaluation metrics; consolidated data of the existing waiting list broken down by county; and recommendations to support the implementation and execution of the program;

(3) Preparation of studies and analysis;



- 1 (4) Maintenance of personnel records;
- 2 (5) Management of contracts and agreements entered into by
- 3 the executive office on aging with public and private
- 4 vendors, consultants, and suppliers;
- 5 (6) Monitoring the purchase of service agreements with
- 6 public and private agencies and rendering technical
- 7 assistance to elder program service providers; and
- 8 (7) Establishment and maintenance of reimbursement systems
- 9 for services provided by agreement with federal,
- 10 state, and county agencies, as well as private
- 11 groups."

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general

13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much

14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for proper

15 implementation of the kupuna caregivers program; provided that

16 funds may only be used for kupuna caregiver program services

17 provided by care homes licensed under chapter 321, Hawaii

18 Revised Statutes.

19 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the executive

20 office on aging for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

Kupuna Caregivers Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the kupuna caregivers program. Requires the Executive Office on Aging to provide additional information regarding the outcomes of the kupuna caregivers program in its annual report on elder programs. (HB1912 HD1)

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