

JAN 19 2024

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the safety and
2 prosperity of our aging kupuna, especially those who require
3 long-term care, are priorities of the State. The legislature
4 further finds that several islands of the State, such as Molokai
5 and Lanai, have very little to zero resources or facilities for
6 long-term care patients. As a result, long-term care patients
7 on these islands are required to travel to other islands to
8 receive the treatment and services they need, which is a
9 burdensome process for the elderly and their families.

10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

11 (1) Require the director of the executive office on aging
12 to work with health care providers to ensure that
13 there are sufficient long-term care facilities on each
14 island of the State; and

15 (2) Make an appropriation.

16 SECTION 2. Section 349-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:



1 "§349-3 General functions, duties, and powers of the
2 **director.** The director shall have the following principal
3 functions, duties, and powers:

4 (1) Serve as the principal official in state government
5 solely responsible for the performance, development,
6 and control of programs, policies, and activities on
7 behalf of elders;

8 (2) Oversee, supervise, and direct the performance by the
9 director's subordinates of activities in such areas as
10 planning, evaluation, and coordination of elder
11 programs and development of a statewide service
12 delivery network;

13 (3) Assess the policies and practices of other agencies
14 impacting on elders and conduct advocacy efforts for
15 elders;

16 (4) Advise the governor on new legislation, programs, and
17 policy initiatives and conduct such liaison as would
18 be required to implement them;

19 (5) Serve as a member of advisory boards and regulatory
20 panels of state agencies in such areas as income
21 maintenance, public employment, retirement systems,



1 certification of health care facilities and programs,
2 social service and medical assistance, and housing and
3 employment, among others;

4 (6) Administer funds allocated for the executive office on
5 aging; and apply for, receive, and disburse grants and
6 donations from all sources for elder programs and
7 services;

8 (7) Establish a clearinghouse for complaints of persons
9 regarding services to elders, or operations of state
10 and county agencies affecting elders, investigate the
11 complaints, and refer the complaints and the
12 director's findings to the appropriate agency for
13 corrective action;

14 (8) Work with health care providers to ensure that there
15 are sufficient long-term care facilities on each
16 island of the State in alignment with the state master
17 plan for elders pursuant to section 349.6;

18 ~~[(8)]~~ (9) Adopt, amend, and repeal rules pursuant to
19 chapter 91 for the purposes of this chapter;



1 [~~9~~] (10) Employ and retain [~~such~~] staff as may be
2 necessary for the purposes of this chapter, in
3 conformity with chapter 76; and

4 [~~10~~] (11) Contract for or grant [~~such~~] services as may be
5 necessary for the purposes of this chapter, including
6 master contract with other state agencies receiving
7 federal and state funds for programs and services for
8 the aging, and purchase of service agreements with
9 appropriate agencies."

10 SECTION 3. 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 for
13 the executive office of aging to work with health care providers
14 to ensure that there are sufficient long-term care facilities on
15 each island of the State.

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

18 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Lynn Walcott



S.B. NO. 2302

Report Title:

Executive Office on Aging; Long-Term Care Facilities;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Director of the Executive Office on Aging to work with health care providers to ensure that there are sufficient long-term care facilities on each island of the State. Makes an appropriation.

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