

MAR 07 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ASSESS THE
FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT
PROGRAM TO PROVIDE A TWENTY PERCENT DISCOUNT ON CERTAIN
GOODS AND SERVICES FOR LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME ELDERS IN
THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, many elders in the State struggle with Hawaii's
2 high cost of living; and
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4 WHEREAS, elders who age at home pay an average of \$4,814
5 per month for home healthcare costs, in addition to other
6 expenses such as housing, utilities, and food; and
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8 WHEREAS, the financial burden on elders can lead to
9 increased stress, reduced quality of life, and difficulty in
10 affording essential needs; and
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12 WHEREAS, in 2010, the Philippines implemented a senior
13 citizen discount program under Republic Act 9994, also known as
14 the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010, to alleviate the
15 financial strain on elders by providing a twenty percent
16 discount on food, housing, utility services, and other goods and
17 services; and
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19 WHEREAS, implementing a similar discount program in Hawaii
20 would provide significant financial relief to the State's
21 elderly residents, ensuring that they can afford basic
22 necessities while maintaining their independence and dignity;
23 and
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25 WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services is well-
26 positioned to assess the feasibility of such a program and
27 determine its potential benefits and implementation challenges;
28 now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,
32 that the Department of Human Services is requested to conduct a
33 study to assess the feasibility of offering a twenty percent



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1 discount for all low- and moderate-income residents aged sixty-
2 five and older on expenditures for:

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4 (1) Housing, including subsidized rent or public housing;

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6 (2) Utilities;

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8 (3) Food; and

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10 (4) Prescription drugs; and

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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
13 Services is requested to submit a report of its findings and
14 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
15 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
16 the Regular Session of 2026; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
19 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services.

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22 OFFERED BY:

