

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1348

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

July 14, 2026

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 14, 2026, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 1973, H.D. 1, S.D. 1,
C.D. 1

RELATING TO HEALTH.
ACT 246

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D.".

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

on JUL 14 2026

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026
STATE OF HAWAII

ACT 246
H.B. NO. 1973
H.D. 1
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that an estimated
2 twenty-five thousand elderly individuals in Hawaii who require
3 in-home health care or support services and do not qualify for
4 existing programs, such as medicaid, cannot afford in-home care
5 services.

6 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a one-
7 year KupunAloha pilot program within the department of health to
8 provide in-home health care and support services for individuals
9 who do not qualify for existing government programs and cannot
10 otherwise afford these services.

11 SECTION 2. (a) There is established within the department
12 of health a one-year KupunAloha pilot program to provide in-home
13 health care and support services for eligible individuals who do
14 not otherwise qualify for government assistance for these
15 services.

16 (b) In implementing the pilot program, the department
17 shall create a plan of care for each eligible applicant. The



1 department may refer eligible applicants to health care
2 providers.

3 (c) The pilot program may enter into contracts with health
4 care providers to effectuate the purposes of this Act. Any
5 contract executed pursuant to this Act shall be subject to
6 chapter 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

7 (d) An individual shall not be considered eligible for the
8 KupunAloha pilot program if:

9 (1) The individual is covered by medicaid or any other
10 government assistance program for in-home health care
11 or support services;

12 (2) The individual does not meet the income requirements
13 for the program established by the department; or

14 (3) The individual does not meet the need criteria for the
15 program established by the department.

16 (e) The KupunAloha pilot program shall cease to exist on
17 June 30, 2027.

18 SECTION 3. The department of health shall submit a report
19 on the effectiveness of the KupunAloha pilot program established
20 pursuant to this Act to the legislature no later than twenty
21 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2027. The



1 report shall also include recommendations to improve the
2 efficiency of the KupunAloha pilot program and whether the
3 program should be made permanent.

4 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the
7 implementation and operation of the KupunAloha pilot program.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
9 health for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.



H.B. NO. 1973
H.D. 1
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 14th day of July, 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. L. Green", is written above the title of the Governor.

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 1973, HD 1, SD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nadine K. Nakamura", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian L. Takeshita", with a horizontal flourish.

Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate
of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2026.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate