

ACT 251

S.B. NO. 2416

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Hawaii Long-Term Care Financing Act.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that people in Hawaii are living longer, due in large measure to the State's excellent health care. The legislature further finds that as they age, they incur concomitant chronic health diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, and stroke, all of which necessitate intense daily care in the later years of life. As people age or become disabled, they need services to help them with activities of daily living. The approach to helping Hawaii's elderly and disabled should be prompted by compassion and caring, although the problem is inextricably one of economics. Medicaid, Medicare, long-term care insurance, and personal assets are insufficient or inaccessible to most individuals.

The legislature is enacting, through H.B. No. 2638, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1,¹ of this 2002 regular session, the Long Term Care Financing Act. The Long Term Care Financing Act establishes the foundation for a universal and affordable system of providing long-term care, and a temporary board of trustees charged with the responsibility of designing a tax-based financing system. This Act is a companion measure, the purpose of which is to convene a summit to bring together private and

public organizations to identify the types and quality of services, service delivery system, and service delivery policies for the long-term care system established in H.B. No. 2638, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.¹

SECTION 2. The Executive Office on Aging shall convene a long-term care summit to bring together private and public organizations, including State, county, and community organizations, to collaborate to identify the types and quality of services, service delivery system, and service delivery policies to ensure the development of a comprehensive and affordable long-term care system for the State.

The Executive Office on Aging shall submit to the legislature a report of findings and recommendations no later than twenty days before the convening of the regular session of 2003.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$40,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2002-2003, for a long-term care summit to be contracted by the Executive Office on Aging with a non-governmental public policy organization. The summit shall bring together business, labor, government, including state and county agencies, and community organizations, to work together to identify the types and quality of services, service delivery system, and service delivery policies to implement a comprehensive and affordable long-term care system for Hawaii.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Executive Office on Aging.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2002.

(Approved July 1, 2002.)

Note

1. Act 245.