

**ACT 103**

H.B. NO. 615

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Healthy Aging Partnership Program.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii healthy aging partnership program was established in 2003 to improve the health status of older adults by empowering residents to make healthy decisions and engage in healthier lifestyles. Since its formation, the healthy aging partnership has successfully adapted evidence-based health promotion programs and disease prevention programs for the multicultural population in Hawaii. Participants who complete workshops offered by the healthy aging partnership feel better, are less limited by their health conditions, and often spend less time at their doctor's office. Because of the many accomplishments of the healthy aging partnership program, the program received the 2013 multicultural aging award from the American Society

## **ACT 103**

on Aging, bringing further recognition for the program's role in improving the health of Hawaii's diverse aging population.

The legislature further finds that the healthy aging partnership program did not receive funding for fiscal year 2016-2017 and that without funds, the program will close and the executive office on aging will not be able to meet the first goal of the Hawaii State Plan on Aging, which is to strive to maximize opportunities for older adults to age well, remain active, and enjoy life in their communities.

The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the healthy aging partnership program to further the program's important role in improving the health and well-being of Hawaii's kupuna.

**SECTION 2.** There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 for the healthy aging partnership program to further the program's important role in improving the health and well-being of Hawaii's kupuna.

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

**SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

(Approved July 6, 2017.)