



**GOV. MSG. NO. 1240**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

June 29, 2016

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

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki,  
Speaker and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Souki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 29, 2016, the following bill was signed into law:

HB1878 HD1 SD2 CD1

RELATING TO AGING  
**ACT 138 (16)**

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGING.

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

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that aging and disability  
3 resource centers help older adults, individuals with  
4 disabilities, and family caregivers find options for long-term  
5 supports and services available to them in the State. The aging  
6 and disability resource centers utilize a person-centered  
7 process intended to navigate and streamline access to supports  
8 and services. The legislature additionally finds that proper  
9 funding for the aging and disability resource centers is  
10 essential to ensure that these centers provide effective single  
11 points of entry for individuals seeking information about  
12 appropriate long-term care options. Ensuring the availability  
13 of services once a consumer receives a referral, such as those  
14 offered through the kupuna care program, is also critical to the  
15 success of the aging and disability resource centers.

16 Furthermore, aging and disability resource centers are  
17 operated by the area agencies on aging in each county. The  
18 executive office on aging is responsible to ensure that



1 referrals and services are provided in a prompt and responsive  
2 manner and that the aging and disability resource centers staff  
3 have the appropriate skills and training to respond to kupuna  
4 and caregivers' needs.

5 SECTION 2. The executive office on aging shall develop a  
6 system of evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the aging  
7 and disability resource centers in each county to ensure  
8 alignment with federal guidance on the criteria for a full-  
9 functioning aging and disability resource center. Measures  
10 shall include, but not be limited to: timeliness of response by  
11 the aging and disability resource center; caller satisfaction;  
12 and number and percentage of kupuna and caregivers who are  
13 linked to a service or resource as a result of contact with an  
14 aging and disability resource center.

15 The executive office on aging shall submit a report of its  
16 evaluation findings to the legislature no later than sixty days  
17 prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2017 and 2018.

18 SECTION 3. The executive office on aging shall also submit  
19 a progress report to the legislature no later than sixty days  
20 prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2017 and 2018  
21 on its implementation of the federal No Wrong Door/aging and



1 disability resource center network implementation grant it  
2 received in 2015.

3 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,700,000 or so much  
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the  
6 aging and disability resource centers.

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

9 PART II

10 SECTION 5. The legislature finds that every year in  
11 Hawaii, on average eighty-five seniors die, 1,960 are  
12 hospitalized, and 8,700 are treated in emergency departments as  
13 a result of falls. Falls among the elderly also result in  
14 almost \$1,200,000 in hospital and physician charges. In  
15 recognition of this critical public health issue, Act 153,  
16 Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, established a fall prevention and  
17 early detection services coordinator position within the  
18 department of health's emergency medical services and injury  
19 prevention system branch. This position enables the department  
20 of health to support a coordinated statewide approach to prevent  
21 and reduce the impact of falls among older adults. Act 153



1 funded a new position for a fall prevention and early detection  
2 coordinator for fiscal year 2014 to 2015.

3 The legislature further finds that access to fall  
4 prevention services and programs would significantly reduce  
5 costs associated with falls in the elderly by expediting  
6 treatment, minimizing serious long-term consequences, reducing  
7 the extent of the injury, and in some instances, avoiding death.

8 Falls among the elderly are a significant public health  
9 issue. Yet, currently, there are insufficient resources to  
10 develop a coordinated statewide approach to reduce and promptly  
11 detect falls among the elderly. The program serves as a focal  
12 point for statewide injury prevention and detection efforts to  
13 ensure multidisciplinary support, coordination of prevention and  
14 detection efforts, and continuity of implementation and  
15 accountability.

16 The purpose of this part is to assure a continued focus on  
17 fall prevention in Hawaii, which will ultimately result in  
18 longer, healthier lives for the State's aging population.

19 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$32,000 or so much



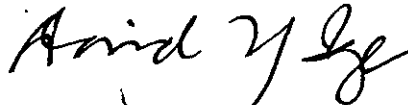
1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for fall  
2 prevention and early detection services for the elderly.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
4 health for the purposes of this part.

5 PART III

6 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

APPROVED this 29 day of JUN , 2016



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

