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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGING.

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

PART I

1  
2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the kupuna care  
3 program was enacted in 1999 to address the needs of Hawaii's  
4 aging population and the issues arising from those needs. The  
5 kupuna care program is considered to be an alternative to  
6 traditional long-term care options. The goal of kupuna care is  
7 to enable Hawaii seniors to lead independent, meaningful, and  
8 dignified lives in their own homes and communities. The  
9 legislature further finds that the kupuna care program provides  
10 access to affordable and quality home- and community-based  
11 services, including hot meals, transportation, case management,  
12 and personal care assistance. Services offered by the kupuna  
13 care program provide a safety net for all kupuna and their  
14 caregivers.

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
17 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
18 the kupuna care program; provided that the sum appropriated



1 shall be in addition to the base budget of the executive office  
2 on aging.

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

5 PART II

6 SECTION 3. The legislature finds that the State's aging  
7 and disability resource center is a person-centered process  
8 intended to navigate and streamline access to long-term supports  
9 and services for older adults, individuals with disabilities,  
10 and family caregivers. The legislature additionally finds that  
11 proper funding for the aging and disability resource center is  
12 essential to ensure the center is an effective single point of  
13 entry for individuals seeking information about appropriate  
14 long-term care options. Ensuring the availability of services  
15 once a consumer receives a referral, such as those offered  
16 through the kupuna care program, is also critical to the success  
17 of the aging and disability resource center.

18 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
21 the aging and disability resource center.



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

3 PART III

4 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
7 the long-term care ombudsman program to establish three full-  
8 time equivalent (3.0 FTE) staff positions to monitor the quality  
9 of long term care in the counties of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii;  
10 provided that one position shall serve the county of Kauai, one  
11 position shall serve the county of Maui, and one position shall  
12 serve the county of Hawaii.

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

15 PART IV

16 SECTION 6. The legislature finds that every year in  
17 Hawaii, on average eighty-five seniors die, 1,960 are  
18 hospitalized, and 8,700 are treated in emergency departments as  
19 a result of falls. Falls among the elderly also result in  
20 almost \$1,200,000 in hospital and physician charges. In  
21 recognition of this critical public health issue, Act 153,



1 Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, established a fall prevention and  
2 early detection services coordinator position within the  
3 department of health's emergency medical services and injury  
4 prevention system branch. This position enables the department  
5 of health to support a coordinated statewide approach to prevent  
6 and reduce the impact of falls among older adults. Act 153  
7 funded a new position for a fall prevention and early detection  
8 coordinator for fiscal year 2014 to 2015.

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

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



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

4 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
7 fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly.

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

10 PART V

11 SECTION 8. The legislature finds that the Hawaii healthy  
12 aging partnership program was established in 2003 to improve the  
13 health status of older adults by empowering residents to make  
14 healthy decisions and engage in healthier lifestyles. Since its  
15 formation, the healthy aging partnership has successfully  
16 adapted evidence-based health promotion programs and disease  
17 prevention programs for the multicultural population in Hawaii.  
18 The legislature further finds that participants who complete  
19 workshops offered by the healthy aging partnership feel better,  
20 are less limited by their health conditions, and often spend  
21 less time at their doctor's office.



1 The legislature also finds that the healthy aging  
2 partnership received the 2013 Multicultural Aging award from the  
3 American Society on Aging. This award brought national  
4 recognition for the healthy aging partnership's critical role in  
5 improving the health of Hawaii's multiethnic elderly population.

6 The purpose of this part is to provide funding to support  
7 the healthy aging partnership program and its important role in  
8 improving the health and well-being of Hawaii's kupuna.

9 SECTION 9. There is appropriated out of the general  
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
12 the healthy aging partnership program of the department of  
13 health's executive office on aging.

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

16 PART VI

17 SECTION 10. The legislature finds that the *Hawaii 2025:*  
18 *State Plan Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias*, published  
19 by the executive office on aging, identifies goals and key  
20 strategies to improve the lives of the numerous families  
21 affected by the disease. The legislature further finds that



1 Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the  
2 United States and that it affects twenty-six thousand Hawaii  
3 residents, a number that will increase by forty per cent by the  
4 year 2025. The legislature also finds that an estimated sixty-  
5 five thousand unpaid caregivers in this State provide seventy-  
6 four million hours of unpaid care each year.

7 With the significantly high number of individuals affected  
8 by Alzheimer's disease as a person having the disease or as a  
9 caregiver, and the substantial projected increase by 2025, there  
10 is a need for a coordinated and prepared support system to  
11 address the multitude of issues arising from addressing the  
12 disease. While the *Hawaii 2025: State Plan Alzheimer's Disease*  
13 *and Related Dementias* identifies strategies to address the  
14 disease, the services and activities require coordination at a  
15 systemic level, such as through a coordinator position.

16 The legislature further finds that the public awareness and  
17 communication subcommittee of the statewide task force on  
18 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia made the key  
19 recommendation calling for a public awareness campaign that  
20 utilizes various media sources to positively promote adults with  
21 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia with dignity and



1 respect and highlight caregivers as compassionate individuals  
2 who champion the health and well-being of their loved ones.

3 The purpose of this part is to make an appropriation for an  
4 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator  
5 position and to make an appropriation for a campaign to raise  
6 public awareness about Alzheimer's disease and related dementia.

7 SECTION 11. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
10 the Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services  
11 coordinator position, which shall be exempt from the civil  
12 service requirements of chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
13 until July 1, 2018.

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

16 SECTION 12. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
19 an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness  
20 campaign that will utilize various media sources to positively  
21 promote adults with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia





1 with dignity and respect and highlight caregivers as  
2 compassionate individuals who champion the health and well-being  
3 of their loved ones.

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

6 PART VII

7 SECTION 13. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2070.



**Report Title:**

Services and Programs for the Elderly; Kupuna Care; Aging and Disability Resource Center; Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program; Fall Prevention; Healthy Aging Partnership; Alzheimer's Disease; Dementia; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for the Kupuna Care Program, Aging and Disability Resource Center, Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program; fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly, the Healthy Aging Partnership Program, an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position, and an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness program. Takes effect on 7/1/2070. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

