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

This is to inform you that on June 25, 2019, the following bill was signed into law:

SB1025 SD1 HD2 RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM
ACT 126 (19)

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai‘i
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 2017, 17.8 per
cent of Hawaii's population was sixty-five years or older, and
with projections of an increase to 19.4 per cent by 2020 and 23
per cent by 2030, caring for Hawaii's kupuna is a high priority
of the legislature.

The legislature finds that currently there are 154,000
unpaid family caregivers in Hawaii who are taking care of their
parents, spouse, or other relatives who need extra care. Family
caregivers play a crucial role in the State's health care system
by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid.

However, it is imperative to ensure that the caregivers take
care of themselves and have the necessary support and services
to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family
member for whom they are caring.

To address this issue, the kupuna caregivers program was
established on July 6, 2017, and aims to provide working
caregivers with additional resources to cover a variety of
support services such as adult day care, assisted
transportation, homemaker services, and many more important
services to qualified kupuna. The program ensures that
caregivers continue earning their own retirement benefits, which
helps businesses retain experienced workers and provides peace
of mind that loved kupuna are well cared for while caregivers
remain in the workforce. This program allows caregivers who are
juggling their own employment with their caregiving
responsibilities to simultaneously take care of their kupuna and
themselves.

Since the establishment of the kupuna caregivers program,
the executive office on aging has reportedly received hundreds
of calls from Hawaii residents wishing to receive the benefits
of the program. While the creation of the program was an
important first step, the legislature believes that the program
requires additional third year funding to have the impact it
needs. With the high volume of residents showing interest in
the program, the current funding needs to be increased in order
to better serve the people of Hawaii.
The purpose of this Act is to:

1. Require the executive office on aging to include in its annual report to the legislature a section detailing outcomes of the kupuna caregivers program;
2. Require the executive office on aging to develop and implement a plan to maximize the number of caregivers served by the program;
3. Include additional services to be provided by the kupuna caregivers program; and
4. Appropriate funds for the implementation of the kupuna caregivers program.

SECTION 2. Section 349-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) The planning and administrative services division shall engage in the following activities, including but not limited to:

1. Preparation and submission of programs and budgets;
2. Preparation of an annual evaluation report on elder programs for the governor and legislature[1], which shall include a section detailing outcomes of the
kupuna caregivers program, including but not limited to:

(A) Evaluation metrics;

(B) A cost breakdown and de-identified, aggregated analysis of individuals served, by county and type of service received;

(C) Identification of the number of service providers contracted by county and the types of services provided;

(D) Consolidated data of the existing waiting list broken down by county; and

(E) Recommendations to support the implementation and execution of the program to maximize the number of caregivers served by the program;

(3) Preparation of studies and analysis;

(4) Maintenance of personnel records;

(5) Management of contracts and agreements entered into by the executive office on aging with public and private vendors, consultants, and suppliers;
Monitoring the purchase of service agreements with public and private agencies and rendering technical assistance to elder program service providers; and

Establishment and maintenance of reimbursement systems for services provided by agreement with federal, state, and county agencies, as well as private groups."

SECTION 3. Section 349-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsections (b) and (c) to read as follows:

"(b) The program shall be coordinated and administered by the executive office on aging and implemented through the area agency on aging. The executive office on aging shall develop and implement a plan to maximize the number of caregivers served by the program.

(c) The kupuna caregivers program shall award an allocation of funds, subject to the availability of funding and up to a maximum of $210 per week, to cover costs for services that would otherwise be performed by the qualified caregiver for the care recipient, including but not limited to:

(1) Care coordination or case management;
1. (2) Adult day care;
2. (3) Assisted transportation;
3. (4) Chores;
4. (5) Home-delivered meals;
5. (6) Homemaker services;
6. (7) Personal care;
7. (8) Respite care; or
8. (9) Transportation;

provided that the allocated funds shall be issued directly to
the service provider upon request and receipt of an invoice for
services rendered."

SECTION 4. The executive office on aging shall submit a

copy of the kupuna caregivers program plan, as required by

section 349-18(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to the legislature

no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular

session of 2020. In addition to the plan, the executive office

on aging may adopt administrative rules to implement and

administer the kupuna caregivers program.

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general

revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $1,500,000 or so much
thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 for proper implementation of the kupuna caregivers program.

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

SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.
We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019.

Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker  
House of Representatives

Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives
THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Date: April 16, 2019
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2019.

[Signature]
President of the Senate

[Signature]
Clerk of the Senate