SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 2017, 17.8 percent of Hawaii's population was sixty-five years or older, and with projections of an increase to 19.4 percent by 2020 and 23 percent 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 and fourth 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:
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 offer a plan to maximize the number of recipients served by the program and offer certain core services;

(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[2], 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 analysis of individuals served, by county and type of service received;

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

(D) Recommendations to support the implementation and execution of 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;

(6) Monitoring the purchase of service agreements with public and private agencies and rendering technical assistance to elder program service providers; and

(7) 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 offer a plan to:

(1) Maximize the number of participants served by the program; and

(2) Offer the core services listed in subsection (c).

(c) The kupuna caregivers program shall award an allocation of funds, subject to the availability of funding and up to a maximum of [§76] $_______ per day, to cover costs for the following services that would otherwise be performed by the qualified caregiver for the care recipient[+], including but not limited to:

(1) Activities of daily living;

(2) Adult day care;

(3) Assisted transportation;

(4) Chores;

(5) Home-delivered meals;

(6) Homemaker services;

(7) Personal care;

(8) Respite care; or
(9) Transportation;

provided that the daily benefit for each qualified recipient is
limited to once per week; provided further 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 shall create administrative rules to implement and
administrate the kupuna caregivers program by January 1, 2022.

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $ or so much
thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
2020-2021 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 January 1, 2059.
Report Title:
Kupuna Caucus; Kupuna Caregivers Program; Appropriation

Description:
Requires the Executive Office on Aging to include details on outcomes of the Kupuna Caregivers Program in its annual report. Requires Office on Aging to create a plan to maximize number of participants in the program and offer core services, requires plan submission to Legislature. Changes the kupuna caregivers program allocation cap from $70 per day to an unspecified amount per week. Appropriates funds. (HB467 HD1)

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