
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING UPDATE THE 2013 WHITE PAPER ON ACTIVE AGING AND PROVIDE A FINAL REPORT ON ITS UPDATED VERSION NO LATER THAN THE START OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF 2021.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that Hawaii's older adult
2 population is growing rapidly and at a constantly increasing
3 pace; and
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5 WHEREAS, in response, the State has addressed the needs of
6 "old-old" or "functionally frail" older persons through
7 initiatives to build infrastructure for eldercare, focusing
8 principally on the medically-defined needs of the frail,
9 disabled, and dependent populations; and
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11 WHEREAS, although these initiatives are vital to the health
12 and well-being of Hawaii's older person population, initiatives
13 focusing on the emerging "young-old" or "functionally able"
14 population will help to cultivate the State's older persons as a
15 resource and community asset that can be tapped for their
16 experience, skills, talents, social networks, and time; and
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18 WHEREAS, the Legislature further finds that there is a
19 paradigm shift in aging policy widely acknowledged within the
20 professional field of gerontology that calls for changing the
21 view of aging from that of a pathology to that of aging as an
22 asset; and
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24 WHEREAS, as part of this paradigm shift, the perspective
25 known as active aging has emerged, which emphasizes the process
26 of optimizing opportunities for health, security, and
27 participation in society in order to enhance the quality of life
28 as people age; and
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30 WHEREAS, the framework of active aging is still evolving
31 but currently advocates for promoting high cognitive and



1 physical function and maintaining engagement in life, rather
2 than solely focusing on avoiding disease and disability; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the Executive Office on
5 Aging released a white paper in 2013 entitled "Hawaii's 2020
6 Vision: The State of Active Aging", that outlined a plan to
7 implement an active aging initiative; and
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9 WHEREAS, this white paper provides a path toward a policy
10 of active aging while the specific details of the initiative are
11 updated and finalized; and
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13 WHEREAS, embracing a policy of active aging has the
14 potential to provide a great value to the health and well-being
15 of Hawaii's older population as well as to communities
16 throughout the State of Hawaii; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
19 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the
20 Executive Office on Aging is requested to update the 2013 white
21 paper on active aging to help create a new social policy
22 paradigm; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report address and include
25 the following:
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- 27 (1) Coordination with the four county agencies on aging,
28 or the appropriate division;
- 29 (2) A review of existing policies and best practices
30 related to active aging in the State;
- 31 (3) Health care practices, with attention to physical,
32 emotional, mental, nutritional, and medical fitness;
- 33 (4) Financial fitness measures to enable older adults to
34 have the appropriate tools and programs in place to
35 ensure the financial health necessary for their later
36 years;
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- 1 (5) Intergenerational equity;
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- 3 (6) Proposals to eliminate ageism;
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- 5 (7) The promotion of new social roles and purposes for
- 6 older persons;
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- 8 (8) A review of policies and practices related to active
- 9 aging, including the incorporation of any
- 10 recommendations for subsequent state plans on aging;
- 11 and
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- 13 (9) Reporting on existing noteworthy active aging programs
- 14 and their projects in Hawaii; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Office on Aging
 17 is requested to provide an interim report on its progress to the
 18 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 19 the Regular Session of 2020; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Office on Aging
 22 is requested to provide a final report to the Legislature no
 23 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
 24 Session of 2021; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 27 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of the
 28 Executive Office on Aging; Director of the Maui County Office on
 29 Aging; Director of the County of Kauai Agency on Elderly
 30 Affairs; Director of the Elderly Affairs Division of the City
 31 and County of Honolulu; Director of the Hawai'i County Office on
 32 Aging; and Director of the Center on Aging at the University of
 33 Hawaii at Manoa.

