
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the availability of
2 a skilled workforce is an essential component of meeting the
3 long-term care needs of Hawaii's residents. Decades ago, the
4 final report of the Hawaii long-term care reform task force,
5 dated June 30, 1997, indicated the need to increase the number
6 of available workers, particularly for in-home and
7 community-based programs. The report also said that "[w]ithout
8 more paraprofessionals and professionals in these areas, new
9 programs and services will be established to no avail." Since
10 then, an increase in the older adult population and the effects
11 of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic have exacerbated the
12 need for more workers to fulfill the multitude of needs
13 throughout the continuum of care.

14 The legislature further finds that the development of a
15 long-term care system to address the continuum of needs for
16 kupuna and the disabled, in part, requires understanding the
17 barriers and challenges faced by providers of services for the



1 aging and disabled, including the ability to hire skilled and
2 competent employees.

3 The legislature further finds that the Healthcare
4 Association of Hawaii periodically conducts workforce studies,
5 including a Hawaii Healthcare Workforce Initiative and a
6 Community Health Needs Assessment, but those studies do not
7 include the needs of home- and community-based service
8 providers.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require
10 completion of a statewide needs assessment to identify the
11 workforce needs of home- and community-based service providers
12 throughout the State.

13 SECTION 2. (a) The executive office on aging shall
14 contract for a statewide assessment that identifies the number
15 of, type of, and competencies needed by workers to fulfill the
16 home- and community-based service provider positions throughout
17 the State.

18 (b) The statewide assessment shall span across the
19 continuum of care from paraprofessional workers to registered
20 nurses and include positions for nonprofit organizations,
21 for-profit companies, and government agencies.



1 (c) The statewide assessment shall include recommendations
2 for the expansion or development of training and other workforce
3 development programs.

4 (d) The executive office on aging shall include the
5 information gathered by the statewide assessment in its master
6 plan for long-term care.

7 (e) The executive office on aging shall submit the
8 statewide assessment and its findings and recommendations,
9 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later
10 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
11 of 2026.

12 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII, of
13 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and
14 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined
15 that the appropriation contained in this Act will cause the
16 state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025
17 to be exceeded by \$ or per cent. The reasons
18 for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that the
19 appropriation made in this Act is necessary to serve the public
20 interest and to meet the needs provided for by this Act.



1 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
4 the hiring of a contractor to perform a statewide assessment.

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

7 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Executive Office on Aging; Statewide Assessment; Long-term Care Needs; Workforce Development; General Fund Expenditure Ceiling Exceeded

Description:

Requires the Executive Office on Aging to contract for a statewide assessment of the needs of the long-term care workforce for home- and community-based service providers. Appropriates moneys. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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