

JAN 19 2007

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAREGIVING.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that families, rather  
2 than institutions, are the primary providers of long-term care  
3 for older adults in the State. According to the executive  
4 office on aging, in 2003, approximately twenty-one per cent of  
5 Hawaii's adult population provided care or assistance to a  
6 person age sixty or older. Caregivers are motivated to provide  
7 care to family members because of their family-oriented values,  
8 the preference of the elderly to remain at home with their  
9 families, and the high cost of institutional long-term care.

10           In Hawaii, the likelihood of becoming a caregiver is  
11 similar across different demographic groups and among persons  
12 with varied socioeconomic characteristics. Adults of any  
13 household income have a similar likelihood of providing care to  
14 an elderly person. Married persons in Hawaii are just as likely  
15 to provide care to an older adult as their unmarried  
16 counterparts.



1           Among the different ethnic groups in Hawaii, native  
2           Hawaiians are most likely to provide regular care to an older  
3           adult, followed by Filipinos, Japanese, and Caucasians.  
4           According to the executive office on aging, twelve per cent of  
5           men and sixteen per cent of women provide care or assistance to  
6           someone age sixty or older. In national studies, women are more  
7           likely than men to be primary caregivers, providing higher  
8           intensity and frequency of care.

9           According to the executive office on aging, sixty-five per  
10          cent of Hawaii's caregivers are employed. To balance their  
11          employment and elder care roles, working caregivers take leaves  
12          of absence, report to work late or leave early, change from  
13          full-time to part-time employment status, change to less  
14          demanding jobs, retire early, or give up work completely. As a  
15          consequence, caregiving may reduce a caregiver's retirement  
16          income because reduced hours on the job or fewer years in the  
17          workforce may mean fewer contributions to pensions, social  
18          security, and other retirement savings.

19          By 2020, more than one in four individuals will be sixty  
20          years old or older. The need for personal care increases with  
21          age due to physical, sensory, cognitive, and self-care  
22          disabilities. As Hawaii's population ages, many more families



1 will be providing higher levels of long-term care to frail and  
2 disabled older adults at home.

3 Under Act 262, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, the executive  
4 office on aging is required to coordinate a statewide system of  
5 caregiver support services by, among other things:

- 6 (1) Integrating family caregiver support with the aging  
7 and disability resource center demonstration project;
- 8 (2) Analyzing the long-term care needs of older adults and  
9 the capacity of family and informal caregivers to help  
10 them remain safely at home;
- 11 (3) Advocating, mobilizing, and coordinating employer and  
12 community resources to enable and augment family  
13 caregiver support;
- 14 (4) Establishing and maintaining protocols and standards  
15 for federal and state caregiver services administered  
16 by state, county, or other local agencies on aging;
- 17 (5) Establishing and supervising the alignment of  
18 long-term care advocacy assistance staff caregiver  
19 support objectives with the planning, resource  
20 development, grants management, data management, and  
21 evaluation functions of the executive office on aging;  
22 and



1 (6) Coordinating statewide support for grandparents and  
2 other aging relative caregivers of children eighteen  
3 and under.

4 The purpose of this Act is to continue to provide for the  
5 coordination and development of family caregiver support  
6 services in Hawaii.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$80,000, or so much  
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
10 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
11 2008-2009, for the executive office on aging to continue to  
12 coordinate a statewide system of family caregiver support  
13 services.

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

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY: Francis Chun Oakland  
[Signature]  
Randy de Baker

**Report Title:**

Family Caregiver Support Services; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to continue the coordination and development of family caregiver support services.

