
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF "GEOGRAPHIC PARTNERSHIPS"
WHEREBY ALTERNATIVE SHELTER AND CARE RESOURCES ARE
LOCATIONALLY ACCESSIBLE AND ORGANIZATIONALLY COORDINATED.

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

1 SECTION 1. Traditional assessments of the unmet housing
2 needs of low-income older adults have focused primarily on the
3 unaffordability or physical disrepair of their dwellings.
4 Government, however, has a responsibility to respond to growing
5 populations of seniors who are not only poor and living in
6 inadequate housing, but also who are experiencing physical and
7 cognitive disabilities and chronic health problems that make it
8 difficult for them to live independently in their current
9 dwellings without help.

10 The Silver Legislature finds that Hawaii faces a number of
11 economic, social, and political challenges in its attempt to
12 offer affordable shelter and care options for its low-income
13 frail elderly population. The State's efforts to respond
14 effectively are complicated by greatly increased numbers of
15 frail and low-income older adults, its tight and very expensive
16 housing market, its high land and building costs, its failure to
17 receive adequate federal housing program subsidies, an island
18 geography that makes service integration and delivery more
19 difficult and expensive, its already small and overtaxed nursing
20 home inventory that cannot easily be cut back to save long-term
21 care expenditures, its failure to encourage partnerships with
22 private-pay assisted living facility providers, its Medicaid

1 budget that will have difficulty funding a steadily growing need
2 for affordable shelter and care options, and the very real
3 prospect that family caregiving will steadily weaken.

4 The purpose of this Act is to increase the shelter and care
5 opportunities for Hawaii's seniors by requiring the Housing and
6 Community Development Corporation of Hawaii to establish
7 "geographic partnerships" for alternative senior housing.

8 SECTION 2. The Housing and Community Development
9 Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH) shall establish "geographic
10 partnerships" whereby alternative shelter and care resources are
11 locationally accessible and organizationally coordinated.

12 Geographic partnerships may include: the sharing of vans or
13 buses currently operated by different government and nonprofit
14 groups; the visiting of multiple rental facilities by mobile
15 health service teams, the co-location of adult day care
16 facilities on or near the sites of affordable rent-assisted
17 facilities; and several rent-assisted housing facilities pooling
18 their buying power to enter into mutually beneficial
19 arrangements with home health providers, pharmacies, malls, or
20 grocery and other retail stores.

21 The HCDCH shall initiate meetings between housing and
22 service providers located within the same geographic area to
23 address common service delivery concerns.

24 SECTION 3. There is appropriated from the General Revenues
25 \$25,000 to the Housing and Community Development Corporation of
26 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

27 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.