
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-TERM CARE RESOURCE
INITIATIVE AT KAPIOLANI COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO TRAIN AND
EDUCATE HAWAII'S ELDERCARE WORKFORCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Silver Legislature finds that family
2 caregivers have a complex responsibility but consistently report
3 that they are not prepared for these roles. This lack of
4 training occurs throughout the caregiving experience, but is
5 most apparent when care recipients are discharged from hospitals
6 or short-term nursing home stays after an illness or accident.
7 Formal instruction is often sporadic and inadequate. Families
8 are expected to perform skilled nursing care, but without the
9 training that professionals must receive.

10 Family caregiver needs for information and training change
11 throughout the course of their loved one's illness. They must
12 have opportunities to learn new skills as they become necessary,
13 access new resources, and learn about care options as the
14 situation changes. Families also need honest information about
15 the financial, social, and health-related consequences of
16 various arrangements for care, and they must share in the
17 decision-making about care arrangements.

18 Hawaii's long-term care workforce shortages and its impact
19 will become increasingly difficult on families as the aging
20 population increases. The demand for services for individuals
21 needing long-term care will outpace the supply of care workers
22 and will worsen if not addressed.

1 Therefore, the Silver Legislature believes that family
2 caregivers must have appropriate, timely, and ongoing education
3 and training in order to successfully meet their caregiving
4 responsibilities. Additionally, family caregivers and their
5 loved ones must be assured of an affordable, well qualified, and
6 sustainable eldercare workforce.

7 The purpose of this Act is to develop at Kapiolani
8 Community College a training and education program for Hawaii's
9 eldercare workforce.

10 SECTION 2. There is established at Kapiolani Community
11 College a Long-term Care Resource Program Initiative that will
12 be responsible for:

- 13 (1) Expanding the quality and quantity of community- and
14 home-based long-term care para-professional caregivers;
- 15 (2) Improving the support and training of family caregivers;
- 16 (3) Harnessing the productivity of the elderly in becoming a
17 healthcare resource for themselves and the community.

18 The Initiative will serve as a statewide model for the
19 other community college campuses on each island to establish
20 similar programs.

21 SECTION 3. There is appropriated \$300,000 from the General
22 Revenues to Kapiolani Community College to implement this Act.

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