
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO HIRE PERMANENT STAFF FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Silver Legislature finds that the UH Center
2 on Aging (COA) is an important resource to our community: its
3 research is widely respected and applied in aging programs
4 throughout the state; it has trained professionals to provide
5 critical leadership roles in aging policy and practice; and it
6 has served as a focal point for community groups to turn to when
7 questions arise as to best practices, research information,
8 program evaluation, curriculum development, and strategic
9 planning.

10 While the COA has played a significant role in preparing
11 much needed professionals in the field of aging, Hawaii
12 continues to face great challenges on how to meet the serious
13 and unremitting needs of our current older adult population.
14 There are serious demands for: a well trained workforce and
15 leaders in gerontology in the near future, well-educated
16 citizens who understand the implications of a growing elderly
17 population, and leaders who can develop programs and policies

1 that benefit not only those who are aged, but those who will
2 age. The COA plays an important role in meeting a significant
3 part of this workforce development need.

4 In mid-2006, the COA will be transferring from the Office
5 of Public Health Studies to the School of Social Work (SSW)
6 without resources to function properly and thrive; the only
7 permanently funded position that transfers to the SSW is that of
8 the secretary's. The Silver Legislature believes that a
9 commitment to provide the COA with key, permanent positions will
10 be a relatively small, but important, investment that will bring
11 in significant returns for the University of Hawaii and the
12 State.

13 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds
14 to the University of Hawaii to hire permanent staff for the COA.

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the General
16 Revenues \$250,000 to the University of Hawaii to hire permanent
17 staff for the Center on Aging and for other related costs to
18 transfer the Center on Aging to the School of Social Work.

19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.