



## 2022 AARP Priorities

### 1. **Hawaii Retirement Savings Program**

Hawaii Retirement Savings Task Force, established by SR 76, SD1 in 2021, has completed their feasibility studies to determine the need to establish a state-facilitated retirement savings program for Hawaii's 216,000 private sector workers who don't have access to a retirement saving plan through their employers. Based on recent polls with small business employers and workers between age 18-64, their findings are:

- 76% of workers aged 18-64 feel they do not have enough money saved for retirement
- 44% of employers do not offer a retirement savings plan through the work place – mostly because too expensive, complicated and time consuming. This impacts 216,000 private sector workers
- 85% would take advantage if their employers offered them a way to save money at work (through payroll deduction)

#### **Proposed Bill (Bill # pending) Concurrent for House and Senate:**

Establish a state-facilitated retirement savings program for 216,000 private sector workers through public-private partnership. None or minimal cost to employers who only need to sign up their employees. Program applies only to employers who don't already offer a plan to their workers.

Employees can select to opt-out and determine the contribution amount from their paycheck. Typically, this is an IRA account established for the participating employee and is portable if they leave their current employer to work elsewhere. Employees can choose to roll over to another plan or retain the account if they change employment.

### 2. **Broadband expansion/digital literacy for kupuna**

AARP initiated the Digital Inclusion Roadmap for Hawaii's Kupuna, a plan that is being completed at the end of December.

- It identifies digital gaps and opportunities in our state and proposes next steps and recommendations that can improve and expand our kūpuna's connectivity and use of digital technology.
- This roadmap will help Hawai'i prioritize and make decisions about how to invest federal funding authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) recently signed into law in November 2021 as well as other funding sources.

No bills have been identified yet but may be introduced based on recommendations from this roadmap

**3. Telehealth**

Telehealth continues to be an important tool for kupuna to communicate with their physicians.

**4 Affordable housing** – Support legislation that helps fund affordable housing sites for seniors

**5. Health care workforce shortage** - Support legislation that provide incentives for workers to for the health care field, especially in long term care (scholarships, stipends, affordable housing For health care providers and families especially on neighbor islands, instructors in nursing schools)

**6. Kupuna Caucus Package**

Long Term Care Ombudsman – fund 4 positions to staff on neighbor islands

Kupuna Care/Kupuna Caregivers Program – Allow flexibility to consolidate funding sources

Healthy Aging Partnership – funding for program

**7. Lower Prescription Drugs** – Bills that support transparencies, wholesale purchasing, review of Price increases, cap on out of pocket costs