

Current situation and problems of legislation on long-term care in Japan's super-aging society / Kimiyoshi Inamori

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Abstrak

The long-term care insurance system, introduced in 2000, has promoted the socialization of long-term care and helped to reduce the burden on families with elderly relatives who need long-term care. But while the purpose of the long-term care insurance system is to provide a necessary and sufficient level of benefits for elderly persons in need of long-term care, the system alone does not necessarily meet all of their care needs. As a result, family care or services other than long-term care insurance are required to complement long-term care insurance services. The system of care leave based on the Child Care and Family Care Leave Act was established as a preparatory period with the aim of building a system for long-term care of family members in need of such care; income guarantees during the care leave period are provided in the form of care leave benefits from the employment insurance system. However, the rate of care leave actually taken remains at an extremely low level, despite progress by businesses in establishing related regulations. What is more important is to create schemes for working formats, such as short working hour systems or limits on overtime work, to assist workers in balancing everyday and continuous employment with family care.