
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO DETERMINE A MEANS FOR A CHILD TO BE SCREENED PRIOR TO THE START OF THE CHILD'S EDUCATION, AT THE CHILD'S FIRST ENTRY INTO PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, TO PROVIDE FOR DIAGNOSIS, REFERRAL, CORRECTION OR TREATMENT, AND TO INTEGRATE THE EFFORTS OF COMMUNITY AND STATE ORGANIZATIONS RELATED TO SCREENING UNDER THIS HAWAII CHILDHOOD SCREENING INITIATIVE.

1 WHEREAS, recent neuroscience research demonstrates that a
2 child's early years are the most crucial in the child's
3 cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development; and
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5 WHEREAS, there are tremendous opportunities for preventive
6 work with children and families as well as predictable, costly
7 consequences for not doing so; and
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9 WHEREAS, quality early childhood education and child care
10 that support all aspects of early development are crucial to
11 ensuring that every child starts his or her formal education
12 healthy, safe, and ready to learn and succeed; and
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14 WHEREAS, this goal can be achieved by assuring that each
15 child can hear, see, and speak at a minimum level prior to
16 starting school; and
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18 WHEREAS, early screening, identification, and intervention
19 for developmental delays and psychosocial problems improve
20 children's outcomes and have a critical influence on school
21 success and family functioning; and
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23 WHEREAS, the ideal is to provide each child with ongoing
24 access to quality primary health care and, to the greatest
25 extent possible, a safe home and community environment; and



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WHEREAS, it is in the State's interest to provide developmental screening and assessment that will detect deficiencies and provide corrections before they hinder a child's ability to function in school; and

WHEREAS, the departments of Health, Education, and Human Services currently provide families access to various community health services; and

WHEREAS, parents are often unaware of or choose not to avail themselves of these services so their children do not receive proper screening, evaluation, and referrals for correction or treatment; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Director of Health is requested to convene a task force to determine a means for a child to be screened prior to the start of the child's education, at the child's first entry into preschool and elementary school, to provide for diagnosis, referral, correction or treatment, and to integrate the efforts of community and state organizations related to screening under this Hawaii childhood screening initiative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health involve representatives of all relevant agencies and organizations, both public and private, in the development of the task force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of the task force is to:

- (1) Plan and implement a statewide screening initiative for all children from birth to eight years of age;
- (2) Develop and implement a screening certification program for children entering preschool and elementary school; and
- (3) Unify screening-related activities in the state by January 1, 2007;

and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force
2 include but not be limited to representatives from:

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4 (1) The Department of Health;
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6 (2) The Department of Human Services;
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8 (3) The Department of Education;
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10 (4) The University of Hawaii, John A. Burns School of
11 Medicine, Department of Pediatrics;
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13 (5) The American Academy of Pediatrics - Hawaii Chapter;
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15 (6) The Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians;
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17 (7) The Hawaii Primary Care Association;
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19 (8) Family Voices of Hawaii (children's health advocacy
20 organization);
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22 (9) The Hilopaa Project;
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24 (10) The Healthy Child Care Hawaii Project;
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26 (11) The Hawaii State Council on Developmental
27 Disabilities;
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29 (12) The Hawaii Early Intervention Coordinating Council;
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32 (13) Consumer representation as represented by the
33 children's parents;

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35 and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force
38 serve without compensation but be reimbursed for necessary
39 expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in the performance
40 of their duties; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:

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- 3 (1) Recommend selection of standardized developmental
4 screening tools for children from birth through age
5 eight years of age, including but not limited to:
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- 7 (A) Cognitive development;
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- 9 (B) Language development;
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- 11 (C) Motor development;
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- 13 (D) Adaptive skills;
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- 15 (E) Behavioral or social-emotional development;
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- 17 (F) Hearing; and
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- 19 (G) Vision;
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- 21 (2) Formalize referral protocols;
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- 23 (3) Develop guidelines for reporting the completion of a
24 child's screening requirement for children entering
25 preschool or elementary school;
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- 27 (4) Address issues related to physician participation; and
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- 29 (5) Evaluate compliance and appropriateness of referrals;

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
34 submit to the Legislature an annual report no later than 20 days
35 before the start of each regular session, beginning with the
36 Regular Session of 2007, on any recommended legislation
37 necessary to implement the program; and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
41 of Health, Director of Human Services, Superintendent of
42 Education, Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii,
43 Executive Director of the American Academy of Pediatrics -
44 Hawaii Chapter, Executive Director of the Hawaii Academy of



1 Family Physicians, Executive Director of the Hawaii Primary Care
2 Association, Executive Director of Family Voices of Hawaii,
3 Executive Director of the Hilopaa Project, Executive Director of
4 the Healthy Childcare Hawaii Project, Executive Administrator of
5 the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities, and
6 Chairperson of the Hawaii Early Intervention Coordinating
7 Council.

