
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILDREN.

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

1 SECTION 1. The federal Individuals with Disabilities
2 Education Act provides that children with disabilities are
3 entitled to receive a free and appropriate public education. To
4 the extent possible, children with special needs are to be
5 provided with the same educational experience as their non-
6 disabled peers. Under the federal No Child Left Behind Act,
7 states are held accountable for ensuring that all children are
8 accorded the opportunity to learn.

9 Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
10 provides early intervention services for infants and toddlers
11 with disabilities, from birth to age three, and their families,
12 along with grants to states to support programs for infants and
13 toddlers with disabilities.

14 Hawaii's Early Intervention Section of the department of
15 health is a program mandated by federal and state laws that
16 provides services to support the development of children from
17 birth to three years of age, along with information and support
18 for parents that increases their knowledge about and ability to



1 support their children's development. However, Hawaii's
 2 children with developmental delays, including Down Syndrome,
 3 require services beyond age three that may currently be
 4 unavailable until the child enters kindergarten.

5 The purpose of this Act is to extend the provisions of the
 6 Early Intervention Section to encompass special needs children
 7 from birth through kindergarten age.

8 SECTION 2. Section 321-351, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 9 amended by amending the definition of "infants and toddlers with
 10 special needs" to read as follows:

11 "Infants and toddlers with special needs" means infants
 12 and toddlers, from birth to the age [of three] at which they are
 13 eligible to enter kindergarten, with delayed development,
 14 biological risk, or environmental risk."

15 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
 17 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for
 18 early intervention services for infants and toddlers with
 19 special needs programs.

20 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
 21 health for the purposes of this Act.



S.B. NO. 2724

1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.
4

INTRODUCED BY: Shianne Chun Oakland

April 7, 2006
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Report Title:

Children; Early Intervention Services

Description:

Expands the definition of "infants and toddlers with special needs" to include children through the age at which they are eligible to enter kindergarten.

