

---

---

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO CONDUCT A STUDY  
AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING THE SHORTAGE OF  
INFANT AND TODDLER CHILD CARE PROVIDERS, FACILITIES, AND  
SERVICES IN THE STATE.

1           WHEREAS, research demonstrates the critical importance of  
2 quality care in a child's first three years of life for  
3 enhancing brain development and cognitive abilities; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, an infant or toddler who lacks appropriate  
6 relationships and stimulation during these years will be less  
7 able to learn, cope with stress, handle emotions, and form  
8 relationships later in life; and  
9

10           WHEREAS, a shortage of infant and toddler child care  
11 providers, facilities, and services exists in the State, making  
12 it increasingly difficult for working parents to attain and  
13 afford quality infant and toddler child care; and  
14

15           WHEREAS, the cost for quality infant and toddler child care  
16 is steadily increasing; and  
17

18           WHEREAS, most families have one or both parents working and  
19 most new parents are both working; and  
20

21           WHEREAS, the shortage of infant and toddler child care is  
22 hurting employers within the State by increasing employee  
23 absenteeism, tardiness, and turnover rates that increase the  
24 costs of recruiting and training new workers; and  
25

26           WHEREAS, addressing the shortage of infant and toddler  
27 child care providers, facilities, and services is in the best  
28 interest of the State and crucial for the well-being of  
29 children, families, workers, and employers; and  
30

31           WHEREAS, new strategies must be adopted to deal with the  
32 increasing demand for infant and toddler child care, yet much



1 remains unknown about the shortage of infant and toddler child  
2 care providers, facilities, and services in the State and  
3 methods by which to increase the number of providers,  
4 facilities, and services without decreasing quality; now,  
5 therefore,

6  
7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third  
8 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the  
9 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
10 Human Services is requested to conduct a study, based upon  
11 available information, about the shortage of infant and toddler  
12 child care providers, facilities, and services in the State; and  
13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human  
15 Services, in this study, is requested to identify and examine  
16 the following areas relating to infant and toddler child care:  
17

- 18 (1) Available data and rationale regarding the shortage of  
19 infant and child care providers in the State;  
20  
21 (2) Existing regulatory and licensing requirements for  
22 infant and toddler child care providers, facilities,  
23 and services and how these may affect the problem; and  
24  
25 (3) Methods by which more infant and toddler child care  
26 providers can be recruited and retained to supply  
27 facilities and services for infants and toddlers in  
28 the State; and  
29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human  
31 Services is requested to transmit, not later than twenty days  
32 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007, its  
33 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
34 legislation, to the Legislature for increasing the supply of  
35 infant and child care providers, facilities, and services in the  
36 State; and  
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
39 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the  
40 Director of Human Services.

