
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO CONDUCT A
MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONAL, AND FINANCIAL REVIEW OF HAWAII'S
EARLY HEAD START AND HEAD START FUNDING RECIPIENTS TO
IMPROVE EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION
SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND TO OPTIMIZE
FUNDING RESOURCES.

1 WHEREAS, Early Head Start and Head Start are comprehensive
2 child development programs that serve low-income children and
3 children with disabilities from birth to age five; and
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5 WHEREAS, as recipients of federal and/or state funds, Head
6 Start and Early Head Start grantees are charged with the
7 responsibility of providing services to low-income children and
8 children with disabilities in accordance with the federal Head
9 Start Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education
10 Improvement Act of 2004, and the Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
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12 WHEREAS, in its 2006 report to the Legislature, the
13 Temporary Early Childhood Education Taskforce notes that the
14 federal Department of Health and Human Services, Administration
15 for Children and Families Head Start Bureau, awarded a grant to
16 the State to:
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- 18 (1) Build early childhood systems and enhance access to
19 comprehensive services and support for all low-income
20 children;
- 21 (2) Encourage widespread collaboration between Head Start
22 and other appropriate programs, services, and
23 initiatives;
- 24 (3) Augment Head Start's capacity to be a partner in state
25 initiatives on behalf of children and their families;
26 and
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- 28 (4) Facilitate the involvement of Head Start in state
29 policies, plans, processes, and decisions affecting
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1 the Head Start target population and other low-income
2 families; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Head Start Collaboration Office is a federally
5 funded office attached to the Department of Human Services for
6 administrative purposes; and
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8 WHEREAS, parents of young children with disabilities, who
9 are eligible for special education under the Individuals with
10 Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and whose
11 Individualized Education Plan Teams have determined that a Head
12 Start program should be a part of their Individualized Education
13 Plans, have raised concerns that state policies may limit
14 flexibility in full-time, part-time, or dual-center based and
15 home visitor placements, and the provision of services to
16 support the families; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006,
20 that the Department of Human Services is requested, in
21 conjunction with the Head Start Collaboration Office, the
22 Department of Health, and the Department of Labor and Industrial
23 Relations Office of Community Services, to perform a management,
24 operational, and financial review of Hawaii's Early Head Start
25 and Head Start funding recipients to determine resources and to
26 identify ways to improve policies, procedures, and personnel
27 training to increase the programs' effectiveness; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the review should include:
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- 31 (1) A review of the State's efforts to promote
32 collaboration among Early Head Start, Head Start, and
33 the state agencies charged with providing services to
34 eligible children with disabilities; and
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- 36 (2) An assessment of the management, financial, and
37 decision-making practices of Early Head Start and Head
38 Start funding recipients and the state agencies
39 required to provide services to eligible children with
40 disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities
41 Education Improvement Act of 2004;
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- 43 (3) An assessment of Early Head Start and Head Start
44 funding recipients' decision-making policies and



1 procedures for placing and providing services to
2 children with disabilities in accordance with the
3 Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement
4 Act of 2004 and the Head Start Act;

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6 (4) An evaluation as to whether Early Head Start and Head
7 Start funding recipients expend available funds in an
8 efficient and cost-effective manner;

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10 (5) A determination of funding, training, or support
11 opportunities to improve Early Head Start and Head
12 Start services; and

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14 (6) An impact assessment of changes in laws affecting
15 federal funding sources for Hawaii's Early Head Start
16 and Head Start programs; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
19 Services report the results of the review to the Legislature at
20 least twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
21 of 2007; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services, the
25 Director of Health, the Director of Labor and Industrial
26 Relations, and the head of the Head Start Collaboration Office.

