

JAN 19 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that while great strides
2 have been made to protect infants and toddlers in motor vehicle
3 crashes, preschoolers and young children under eight years of
4 age remain at high risk of injury. Act 175, Session Laws of
5 Hawaii 2006, amended Hawaii's child passenger restraints law to
6 require a child four years of age or older, but less than eight
7 years of age, and under certain weight and height minimums, to
8 be properly secured in a child safety seat or booster car seat.
9 The new law takes effect on January 1, 2007. The legislature
10 further finds that the cost of purchasing booster car seats
11 adversely impacts low-income families that may not have
12 sufficient funds to afford booster car seats that range in price
13 and can cost upwards of \$100.

14 The Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition is a statewide,
15 community-based organization that was established in 1991 to
16 help prevent injuries to children and youth in Hawaii.
17 Automobile safety is one of the organization's major focuses as



1 traffic related injuries continue to be the leading cause of
2 death for Hawaii's children and youth.

3 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to educate
4 the public about the child passenger restraints law and to help
5 subsidize the cost of child booster car seats for low-income
6 families.

7 SECTION 2. The Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition shall:

- 8 (1) Launch an effective public education and media
9 campaign to educate the public about Hawaii's child
10 passenger restraints law;
- 11 (2) Design and implement a program to help subsidize the
12 cost of booster car seats that meet federal motor
13 vehicle safety standards at the time of their
14 manufacture for low-income families whose combined
15 family incomes do not exceed two hundred per cent of
16 the federal poverty level for a family of applicable
17 size as follows:
- 18 (A) per cent of the cost if the combined
19 family income is two hundred per cent of the
20 federal poverty level or less;



1 (B) per cent of the cost if the combined
 2 family income is one hundred fifty per cent of
 3 the federal poverty level or less; and

4 (C) per cent of the cost if the combined
 5 family income is one hundred per cent of the
 6 federal poverty level or less; and

7 (3) Consult with the department of human services
 8 regarding the design and implementation of the subsidy
 9 program.

10 SECTION 3. The department of human services shall assist
 11 the Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition with the design and
 12 implementation of the subsidy program described in section 2.

13 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
 14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
 15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and
 16 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
 17 year 2008-2009, to educate the public about the child passenger
 18 restraints law and to subsidize the cost of child booster car
 19 seats for low-income families pursuant to section 2.

20 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 21 of human services for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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Report Title:

Motor Vehicle Safety; Child Passenger

Description:

Appropriates funds to educate the public about the child passenger restraints law and to help subsidize the cost of child booster car seats for low-income families.

