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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE STATE COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, in recognition of  
2 the important and unique role fathers play in the lives of their  
3 children, families, and communities, the legislature established  
4 the state commission on fatherhood in 2003. Act 156, Session  
5 Laws of Hawaii 2003, as amended by Act 148, Session Laws of  
6 Hawaii 2005, and Act 232, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, as  
7 amended by Act 190, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, directs the  
8 commission to serve in an advisory capacity to state agencies in  
9 order to promote healthy family relationships between parents  
10 and children. In 2007, the legislature established the  
11 commission as a permanent entity within the State, in  
12 recognition of its value and the need to continue to promote and  
13 support healthy families in Hawaii.

14           The legislature further finds that it is necessary for the  
15 commission to hire an executive director and appropriate staff  
16 in order to implement its strategic plan which includes the  
17 following goals and objectives:



- 1 (1) Completing a statewide analysis of service provision  
2 to fathers;
- 3 (2) Developing policy recommendations on best practices  
4 for serving fathers via state agencies and their  
5 service providers;
- 6 (3) Developing, supporting, and advocating for legislation  
7 that facilitates father involvement in the lives of  
8 children;
- 9 (4) Operating year-round public awareness campaigns about  
10 the importance of father involvement in the lives of  
11 children;
- 12 (5) Providing information, resources, and events related  
13 to effective fathering and the parenting support  
14 available to fathers and families;
- 15 (6) Implementing a parent-friendly business award program;
- 16 (7) Administering funds for its work and the work of  
17 organizations it funds through grant-making activity;
- 18 (8) Leveraging additional fatherhood support funds from  
19 other sources;
- 20 (9) Publishing an annual report on the status of  
21 fatherhood issues in Hawaii; and



1 (10) Identifying and promoting new laws, policies, and best  
2 practices to improve father involvement.

3 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to support  
4 the operations of the state commission on fatherhood.

5 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for  
8 the state commission on fatherhood to fund operations, including  
9 the hiring of an executive director and staff, establishing an  
10 office, and paying travel expenses for neighbor island  
11 commissioners.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
13 human services for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.  
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INTRODUCED BY: Erizanne Chun Galilana  
Normin Sakamoto  
Mike Galilana

**Report Title:**

State Commission on Fatherhood; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for the state commission on fatherhood.

