
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOLS.

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

1 PART I. NON-SCHOOL-HOUR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many children are
3 left unsupervised in the mornings and afternoons before and
4 after school. Nationally, nearly two-thirds of school-age
5 children are in homes where both parents work, but few
6 communities have a comprehensive system that provides before-
7 and after-school care for children. Currently, Hawaii has a
8 successful A+ program for students in grades K-6, as well as
9 funding for the UPLINK program to serve older children who also
10 need adult supervision. Statistics show that the rates of
11 juvenile crime, drug use, and experimentation with tobacco,
12 alcohol, and sexual activity increase among unsupervised older
13 children during non-school hours. These problems have been
14 identified by and qualify for federal funding programs using
15 temporary assistance for needy families block grants. The
16 legislature further finds that there is widespread agreement
17 that it is important to establish safe, structured, and

1 supervised learning environments for school-aged children during
2 non-school hours to avoid or prevent these problems.

3 In the past few years, funds were appropriated by the
4 legislature to the department of education, the office of youth
5 services, and the four counties. Through Act 281, Session Laws
6 of Hawaii 2006, over six thousand three hundred students
7 participated in meaningful, wholesome, non-school-hour
8 activities statewide.

9 The purpose of this part is to continue this commitment and
10 appropriate additional temporary assistance for needy families
11 program funds to provide school aged children with positive,
12 interesting, and meaningful opportunities and experiences
13 through non-school-hour programs. Investment in these wholesome
14 activities is intended to allow young people to explore their
15 potential and interests; develop positive, healthy relationships
16 with their family, peers, and community; and provide experiences
17 that will help them to achieve success throughout their
18 lifetime. Their involvement in these activities will deter
19 problems of juvenile crime, drug use, and experimentation with
20 tobacco, alcohol, and sexual activity.

21 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the federal
22 temporary assistance for needy families program funds the sum of

1 \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
2 year 2009-2010 for non-school-hour programs.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 human services to provide supervision of children in
5 kindergarten through twelfth grade under the department of
6 education.

7 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the federal
8 temporary assistance for needy families program funds the sum of
9 \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
10 year 2009-2010 for the office of youth services.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
12 human services for non-school-hour programs for children and
13 youth enrolled in school.

14 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the federal
15 temporary assistance for needy families program funds the sum of
16 \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
17 year 2009-2010 for non-school-hour programs for children and
18 youth enrolled in school.

19 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
20 human services subject to the following allocation percentages,
21 which are based on the number of children eighteen years of age
22 or younger residing in each county as follows:

- 1 (1) Seventy-one per cent, city and county of Honolulu;
- 2 (2) Thirteen per cent, county of Hawaii;
- 3 (3) Eleven per cent, county of Maui; and
- 4 (4) Five per cent, county of Kauai.

5 SECTION 5. Moneys allocated for the purposes of this part
 6 shall not reduce existing funding for non-school-hour programs.
 7 Moneys shall be awarded by the expending agencies only to
 8 non-school-hour programs that demonstrate a commitment to
 9 partnering with the public and private sectors and involve youth
 10 as active participants in all phases of program planning,
 11 implementation, and evaluation. All programs that receive
 12 moneys shall meet each quarter with their community partners for
 13 the purposes of program evaluation and improvement.

14 SECTION 6. The department of education, the office of
 15 youth services, and the counties shall convene annually to share
 16 information on the best practices and outcomes of non-school-
 17 hour programs. The office of youth services shall submit to the
 18 legislature an annual report on the programs funded under this
 19 part no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each
 20 regular session, beginning with the regular session of 2010.

21 **PART II. COUNTY OF HAWAII AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

1 SECTION 7. The island of Hawaii encompasses an area of
2 4,028 square miles and has a population of 167,000 residents.
3 The island's population is spread over an area twice the size of
4 all the other islands combined, which poses unique geographical
5 challenges in the provision of programs and services to island
6 residents.

7 Rural communities sometimes lack the necessary
8 infrastructure to support and implement beneficial programs.
9 Youth in rural communities can face challenges in remaining
10 drug-free, engaged, and involved in positive activities because
11 of the lack of transportation, facilities, and educational
12 alternatives during afternoon and evening hours. Families have
13 to travel significant distances to areas of employment that are
14 clustered in the South Kohala, Kona, and Hilo areas. This
15 results in many children being unsupervised after school. Drugs
16 and substance abuse, primarily crystal methamphetamine, are
17 taking a heavy toll on the children and families in these
18 communities. The State remains committed to ensuring the safety
19 and health of our children in rural areas.

20 Schools have the necessary infrastructure to provide
21 support to youth, families, and communities, including
22 classrooms, restrooms, parking areas, computer labs, gyms, and

1 parks. In some rural communities, the only facilities for
2 meetings and activities are the schools, which often remain
3 closed during the afternoon and evening hours. Schools are the
4 center of our communities. Through partnerships among the
5 department of education, the county, local businesses, and
6 community organizations, students can be given the opportunity
7 to remain at school to participate in non-school-hour
8 recreational and educational programs. Increasing the positive
9 alternatives available to our youth will provide untold benefits
10 to our community.

11 Establishing the Hawaii safe haven demonstration program
12 will allow communities to become engaged in the education and
13 support of their students. This demonstration program would
14 permit schools to remain open after school with services to be
15 provided by local businesses, organizations, and community
16 volunteers. It would also allow for the collaboration,
17 cooperation, and collective commitment of rural communities
18 towards nurturing, guiding, and supporting youth and their
19 families. The safe haven demonstration program is planned for
20 implementation in the county of Hawaii as a model to be expanded
21 to other islands following the successful demonstration of this
22 program. One school will be selected by each department of

1 education area complex superintendent as a demonstration site.
2 A total of three schools will be part of this program during the
3 first year of operation.

4 The legislature finds that unacceptable rates of adolescent
5 substance abuse, juvenile delinquency, teenage pregnancies, and
6 other negative socio-economic statistics are occurring in Hawaii
7 communities. The Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile
8 Justice and Delinquency Prevention has clearly stated that
9 community programs most effective in addressing negative
10 behaviors amongst our youth are programs that reduce the risk
11 factors and increase the protective factors in our community.
12 The safe haven demonstration program will accomplish both of
13 those goals.

14 The purpose of this part is to assign a portion of the
15 funds allocated to the county of Hawaii, designated in section 4
16 of this Act, for the implementation of the safe haven
17 demonstration program.

18 SECTION 8. The county of Hawaii shall expend \$
19 or so much thereof as may be necessary of the funds appropriated
20 and allocated under section 4(2) of this Act for the purpose of
21 implementing a safe haven demonstration program.

1 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
2 provided that sections 2, 3, and 4 shall take effect on July 1,
3 2009.

Report Title:

DOE; Non-School-Hour Programs; Safe Haven; TANF Funds;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates TANF funds for non-school-hour programs; introduces
Hawaii county safe haven demonstration project. (SD1)