

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



WRITTEN ONLY

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In reply, please refer to:
File:

LATE

Senate Committees on Human Services and Health

S.B. 2087, RELATING TO EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

**Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health**

February 1, 2010, 2:45 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) opposes this bill to mandate early
2 intervention (EI) services, since the DOH does not have funding for statewide EI services for children
3 with special needs at environmental risk. The DOH already provides EI services for children with or at
4 biological risk for developmental delays.

5 **Fiscal Implications:** Additional funding is needed for EI services for children at environmental risk.

6 **Purpose and Justification:** This bill mandates EI services for infants and toddlers with special needs,
7 who include those with developmental delays, biological risk, or environmental risk.

8 The DOH/Early Intervention Section currently provides EI services for children age 0-3 years
9 with or at biological risk for developmental delays, as mandated by Part C of the Individuals with
10 Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). In Federal FY 2008, EIS served 2,025 children age 0-3 years with
11 developmental delays or at biological risk. It is not necessary to mandate these services.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.