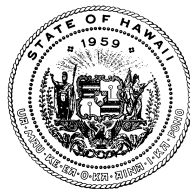


SCR136



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committees on Education and Human Services

**S.C.R. 136, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A
DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING TASK FORCE TO REVIEW EARLY
CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING PILOT PROJECTS, AND
MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EARLY
CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING SYSTEM IN HAWAII**

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

March 28, 2011, 1:45 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the intent of this resolution to
2 develop an integrated, universal early childhood developmental screening system. However, a
3 Screening Task Force may not be necessary since the DOH Family Health Services Division (FHSD)
4 already plans to convene a series of meetings with state, community, professional, and family partners to
5 address a Title V priority to promote early childhood screening and development.

6 **Fiscal Implications:** The DOH cost is staff time to support a Screening Task Force and report on
7 findings and recommendation. Limited staff time is a concern.

8 **Purpose and Justification:** This resolution requests the DOH to convene a Developmental Screening
9 Task Force to review the Aloha United Way (AUW) Early Childhood Developmental Screening pilot
10 projects and their evaluation, and report on findings and recommendations for the development of an
11 integrated, universal early childhood developmental screening system in Hawai'i.

12 The DOH FHSD already has a Title V (Maternal and Child Health Block Grant) priority to
13 promote early child screening and development. FHSD is planning to convene a series of collaborative
14 meetings with state, community, professional, and family partners to address the system of

1 developmental screening and follow-up services. The FHSD collaborative meetings will examine
2 statewide data for children’s access to medical homes (primary care providers); American Academy of
3 Pediatrics (AAP) guidelines and Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT)
4 requirements for well child care including developmental screening; current initiatives addressing
5 primary care provider screening; AUW pilot project data and evaluation; other community
6 developmental screening activities; and gaps in the current system of screening, follow-up, and referrals
7 for developmental concerns. Any recommendations regarding an integrated developmental screening
8 system must fit into the larger systems of health care and early childhood development.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 28, 2011

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services
and

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Education
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators Chun Oakland and Ihara, Tokuda and Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: SCR 136 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING TASK FORCE TO REVIEW EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING PILOT PROJECTS, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING SYSTEM IN HAWAII’I.

The position and views expressed in this testimony do not represent nor reflect the position and views of the Department of Health (DOH).

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF SCR 136.** The purpose of the resolution is to request that DOH: 1) convene a Developmental Screening Task Force to review Aloha United Way’s (AUW) Early Childhood Developmental Screening pilot projects and the University of Hawai’i at Manoa Center on Disability Studies’ (CDS) evaluation of those pilot projects; and 2) submit a report to the Legislature prior to the convening of the 2012 Regular Session on DOH’s findings and recommendations, based on the Task Force’s review, for the development of an integrated, universal early childhood developmental screening system in Hawai’i.

The Council supports early developmental screenings that help to identify developmental delays as early as possible so that children and their families have access to necessary treatment and services to leading to better health and education outcomes for children and their families, and in the development of an integrated, universal early childhood developmental screening system in Hawai’i.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Page 2

March 28, 2011

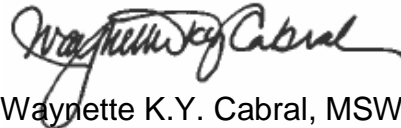
The Council understands that there is an existing DOH work group under the Maternal Child Health Services Block Grant, Title V of the Social Security Act, which is working to address the need for and strategies to promote early childhood developmental screenings in Hawai'i. **Rather than establish a task force to conduct a review of the AUW pilot projects and CDS evaluation of those pilot projects, we respectfully suggest that the existing DOH work group be expanded to include a representative from AUW and CDS and conduct a review of the pilot projects and evaluation of those projects.**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **supporting the intent of SCR 136.**

Sincerely,



Liz Ann Salvador
Chair



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Human Resources
and

Senate Committee on Education
Monday, March 28, 2011

by

Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor

and

Dr. Jean L. Johnson, Associate Director
Center on Disability Studies, College of Education
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SCR 136 - Requesting The Department Of Health To Convene A Developmental Screening Task Force To Review Pilot Projects For Early Childhood Developmental Screening, And Make Recommendations For Development Of An Early Childhood Developmental Screening System In Hawaii.

Aloha, Honorable Chairs Chun-Oakland and Tokuda, Vice Chairs Ihara and Kidani and members of the Senate Committees on Human Services and Education, mahalo for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SCR 136. I am Jean Johnson, Associate Director for the Center on Disability Studies, College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

The Center on Disability Studies has enthusiastically participated in the pilot project funded by the Aloha United Way to screen high-risk preschool children in the Wai'anae Community for hearing or vision loss and for delays in the development of communication, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, personal or social problem-solving skills, and social-emotional skills.

Why have we participated? – Because, *we know that*

- Less than one fourth of Hawai'i's children arrive at kindergarten with the readiness skills they need to be successful in the classroom.
- A young child who has an unidentified hearing or vision loss will not achieve the literacy goal of reading at grade level by third grade.
- When children begin school without the learning and behavioral skills they need to succeed in the classroom, their teachers can, as early as kindergarten, predict which children will later drop out of school and not attain a high-school diploma.

We have been conducting the evaluation of this community effort because we *want to prevent disabilities in children* by addressing the needs of at-risk young children. Whereas only about 3-5% of children have a definable disability, approximately 12% of school aged children are served under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act because they are environmentally disabled as a result of our failure provide high quality

learning opportunities for them in early childhood. Without a targeted, universal screening program, the young children who are most vulnerable and at the highest risk will not be screened and their families will not be assisted in obtaining the services they need.

The Aloha United Way has provided, not only funds for the screening, but leveraged resources to ensure that the children receive the treatment or intervention services they need to address the hearing, vision, and developmental problems that are identified. Children receive treatment for ear infections, glasses for their vision loss, and referrals to agencies that provide evaluations and early intervention services. Families receive training to enable them to better understand and help their children.

This proposed public-private partnership Task Force would not require any appropriation, but would provide to the House recommendations for developing an integrated, universal early childhood developmental screening system for Hawai'i. Targeted, universal developmental screening has been one of the community needs identified by the *Be My Voice Hawai'i Campaign* (www.BeMyVoiceHawaii.org).

Again, mahalo for providing me this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of SCR 136.



Hearing date:
Monday, March
28, 2011
1:45 p.m.
Senate
Committees on
Education and
Human Services
Room 225

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

From: Elisabeth Chun, Executive Director
Good Beginnings Alliance

Date: Monday, March 28, 2011, 1:45 p.m.
Conference Room 225

Subject: **SCR 136: Requesting the Department of Health to convene a developmental screening task force to review early childhood developmental screening pilot projects, and make recommendations for the development of an early childhood developmental screening system in Hawaii.**

The Good Beginnings Alliance is a policy and advocacy organization focused on Hawaii's youngest children and their families. We strive to ensure a nurturing, safe and healthy development for all children from pre-birth to age eight. We believe all children deserve safe and supportive environments that meet their needs as they grow and develop. Good Beginnings is also a member of One Voice for Hawaii's Children (www.onevoiceforchildren.net), an alliance of organizations and individuals committed to the development of an effective and equitably funded early childhood system that gives all young children the opportunity to arrive at kindergarten safe, healthy and ready to succeed. The following information is provided to help you in your decision-making process.

The initial results from the Aloha United Way's early childhood developmental screening pilot projects indicate some serious areas of concern with over 1 out of 5 children exhibited a developmental delay that needed follow up services. Left undetected with no services provided, these children could face significant problems when entering kindergarten. Moreover, they would start school not ready to succeed. There will be great benefit in a Department of Health task force reviewing these projects and making recommendations for the development of an early childhood developmental screening system. Finally, this SCR and the Aloha United Way pilot projects directly support the Health outcomes for the Early Learning Council's Early Childhood System Development.

Mahalo for your consideration. For more information contact: Good Beginnings Alliance; phone: 531-5502; ljchun@goodbeginnings.org

Aloha United Way

200 N. Vineyard Blvd., Suite 700
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-3938
Telephone (808) 536-1951
Fax (808) 543-2222
auw.org



Aloha United Way

March 24, 2011

Senate Committee on Human Services and Senate Committee on Education
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Sen. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Monday, March 28, 2011 at 1:45 P.M.
Conference Room 225

SCR 136: Testimony in Strong Support

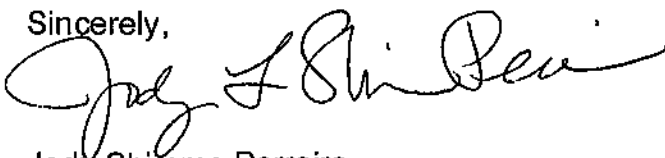
Dear Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Tokuda and Committee Members:

Aloha United Way strongly encourages your favorable consideration of SCR 136 which establishes a developmental screening task force.

Currently, approximately 20,000 children are in special education tracks in our school system. Each of these children cost an average of \$14,000 more per year to educate than normal education track students. Early detection and intervention with children experiencing developmental delays can divert these children from special education tracks to normal tracks with great savings to the state. This early identification and treatment is accomplished through the developmental screening process.

Recent budget cuts have eliminated early screening programs with dire implications for the future impact on our school system. SCR 136 provides an excellent start on rebuilding the comprehensive set of programs needed to ensure each child is ready to learn when they begin their formal education. Aloha United Way strongly encourages favorable consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Jody Shiroma Perreira
Acting Chief Operating Officer

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED.

March 27, 2011

Senators Chun Oakland, Ihara, Tokuda and Kidani

Committee on Human Services and Education

The American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter

03-28-11 1:45PM in conference room 225

Support for SCR136

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING TASK FORCE TO REVIEW EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING PILOT PROJECTS, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING SYSTEM IN HAWAII

Dear Senators:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter is in support of SCR136. Pediatricians are very much involved in developmental screening for all children under their care. The Chapter has a long standing history of working and collaborating with the Department of Health on child health issues. We would welcome involvement in review of local developmental screening pilot project results and discussions promoting an integrated developmental screening system in Hawaii.

Respectfully,

Galen YK Chock MD

Immediate Past President, the American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter

1380 Lusitana St., Suite501, Honolulu, HI 96816

(808) 521-6030, gchock@aap.net