
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING WELLNESS GUIDELINES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Early learning programs can play an integral
2 part in children's development by providing good nutrition, and
3 by offering physical activity and other learning opportunities
4 that contribute to school readiness and a successful future.
5 Such guidelines should be consistent with the current department
6 of education wellness guidelines to promote and support healthy
7 learning environments in Hawaii's public schools.

8 The purpose of this Act, therefore, is to establish early
9 learning wellness guidelines to increase adoption of healthy
10 habits early in life for young children who attend licensed and
11 license-exempt early learning programs.

12 SECTION 2. (a) The department of health shall, in
13 partnership with the executive office on early learning,
14 department of human services, department of education, and other
15 stakeholders expressing an interest, establish early learning
16 wellness guidelines, applicable to all programs and services of
17 the State's early learning system, that at a minimum:



1 (1) Include goals for nutritious foods, health education,
2 physical activity, and other activities designed to
3 promote childhood wellness;

4 (2) Are consistent with the State of Hawaii wellness
5 guidelines for department of education schools;

6 (3) Shall be sensitive to family choice and cultural
7 diversity;

8 (4) Establish plans for the adoption and dissemination of
9 the early learning wellness guidelines, as well as
10 monitoring and measurement of the implementation of
11 the guidelines in early learning system programs and
12 services; and

13 (5) Are provided in such a manner as to be consistent with
14 the specific needs and requirements of local early
15 childhood education and care agencies.

16 (b) The early learning wellness guidelines shall serve as
17 guidance only and shall not be construed as binding upon, or as
18 a mandate to, early learning system programs and services.

19 (c) The department of health shall establish the early
20 learning wellness guidelines no later than June 30, 2014.

21 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
22 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much

1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 to fund
2 meetings to bring together necessary stakeholders to develop
3 early learning wellness guidelines.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
5 health for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.



Report Title:

Early Learning Wellness Guidelines

Description:

Establishes non-binding early learning wellness guidelines applicable to programs and services of the State's Early Learning System. Appropriation. Effective July 1, 2013.
(HB913 HD1)

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