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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII  
STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC  
FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to propose an  
2 amendment to article X, section 1, of the Hawaii state  
3 constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for  
4 private early childhood education programs to help the State  
5 meet its goal of providing an early learning system for the  
6 children of Hawaii.

7 SECTION 2. Article X, section 1, of the Constitution of  
8 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

9 **"PUBLIC EDUCATION**

10 **Section 1.** The State shall provide for the establishment,  
11 support and control of a statewide system of public schools free  
12 from sectarian control, a state university, public libraries and  
13 such other educational institutions as may be deemed desirable,  
14 including physical facilities therefor. There shall be no  
15 discrimination in public educational institutions because of  
16 race, religion, sex or ancestry; nor shall public funds be  
17 appropriated for the support or benefit of any sectarian or



1 nonsectarian private educational institution, except that public  
2 funds may be appropriated for the support or benefit of private  
3 early childhood education programs, subject to the non-  
4 discrimination provision above, as provided by law, and that  
5 proceeds of special purpose revenue bonds authorized or issued  
6 under section 12 of Article VII may be appropriated to finance  
7 or assist:

8 1. Not-for-profit corporations that provide early  
9 childhood education and care facilities serving the general  
10 public; and

11 2. Not-for-profit private nonsectarian and sectarian  
12 elementary schools, secondary schools, colleges and  
13 universities."

14 SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall  
15 be as follows:

16 "Shall the appropriation of public funds be permitted for  
17 the support or benefit of private early childhood education  
18 programs that shall not discriminate on the basis of race,  
19 religion, sex or ancestry, as provided by law?"

20 SECTION 4. New constitutional material is underscored.



1 SECTION 5. This amendment shall take effect upon  
2 compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of  
3 the State of Hawaii.



**Report Title:**

Early Childhood Education; Public Funds; Constitutional  
Amendment

**Description:**

Proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the appropriation  
of public funds for private early childhood education programs,  
subject to non-discrimination provisions, as provided by law.  
(CD1)

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