

S .B. NO. 1137

JAN 24 2013

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

RELATING TO THE SYSTEMATIC HEARING AND VISION PROGRAM.

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

1           SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to repeal the  
2 department of health's systematic hearing and vision program.

3           SECTION 2. Chapter 321, part IX, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
4 is repealed.

5           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Anna Dreusado Ki*

BY REQUEST

S.B. NO. 1137

**Report Title:**

Systematic Hearing and Vision Program

**Description:**

Repeals chapter 321, part IX, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for housekeeping purposes.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Health

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE SYSTEMATIC HEARING AND VISION PROGRAM.

PURPOSE: To remove the statutory requirement for the Department of Health (DOH) to conduct a systematic hearing and vision program for school children.

MEANS: Repeal chapter 321, part IX, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

JUSTIFICATION: The DOH is mandated by section 321-101, HRS, to conduct a systematic hearing and vision program for school children. The former School Health Services Branch/Hearing and Vision Program provided hearing screening for grades Preschool, K, 1, 2, and special education; screening for far vision acuity for grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, and special education; color blind test at grade 2; and cover/light at preschool. The program was established in 1978, but was discontinued in 1995 due to budget reductions and in response to a request to discontinue programs that were not critical public health functions and could be handled by the private health care system.

The DOH does not have funding or staff for this program. Children currently have hearing and vision screening through pediatricians, other primary care providers, and/or community organizations.

Impact on the public: None. This program has not been operational for 17 years.

Impact on the department and other agencies: None.

GENERAL FUND: None.

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OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM  
DESIGNATION: HTH-560.

OTHER AFFECTED  
AGENCIES: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.