



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

January 31, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Mele Carroll, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 875 - RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM CHILD CARE
LICENSING**

Hearing: Thursday, January 31, 2013; 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of H.B. 875 is to allow a child care program licensed by the United States Department of Defense and the Hawaii Council of Private Schools to be exempt from licensing by the Department of Human Services.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) strongly supports this Administration bill. This bill will clarify the exemptions passed in the 2012 Legislative Session amending section 346-152(a)(3), Hawaii Revised Statutes, for any kindergarten, school, or program licensed or certified by the Department of Education, the Hawaii Council of Private Schools (HCPS), or the United States Department of Defense from child care licensing by the Department of Human Services.

The kindergartens, schools, or child care programs to be exempted are already licensed or certified by the United States Department of Defense and located on federal property. The licensing and certification standards of the United States Department of

Defense exceed the DHS standards. Also, the DHS does not have jurisdiction over child care programs located on federal property. It is an administrative burden for the Department to also license these programs which are already licensed or certified by another entity.

Additionally, this bill clarifies that a child care program licensed by HCPS shall apply for an exemption with the DHS and must provide evidence that HCPS licensing standards meet or exceed those of the Department, including the monitoring component. The DHS has agreed to work with the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS) and the HCPS to provide technical assistance in the development of standards for their child care programs.

In order for a child care program licensed by the HCPS to be exempt from licensure by the Department of Human Services, the child care program must apply and show evidence that the licensing standards of the HCPS meet or exceed the licensing standards of the Department of Human Services, and that the standards include a monitoring system that ensures compliance with the standards.

If the child care program requesting the exemption cannot demonstrate that the HCPS standards meet or exceed those of the Department, the Department shall have the discretion to deny the application for exemption and continue to license the child care program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING
HONOLULU

TERRY LOCK
DIRECTOR

Testimony in **Support** of
H.B. 875, Relating to Exemptions from Child Care Licensing
By Terry Lock, Director

House Committee on Human Services
January 31, 2013
9:30 a.m., Room 329

Honorable Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Aloha, I am Terry Lock, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning. I am here today to present testimony in support of House Bill 875.

The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) is charged with coordinating efforts on behalf of young children by creating partnerships and alignment of policies and programs to achieve improved outcomes in health, safety, and school readiness and success.

Programs accredited by the Hawaii Council of Private Schools (HCPS) are required to follow requirements that exceed the licensing requirements of the Department of Human Services. H.B. 875 would exempt these programs from DHS-licensing requirements but requires them to provide evidence that HCPS licensing standards meet or exceed DHS licensing standards, including a monitoring component.

We support H.B. 875 because a cornerstone of our work is to ensure high-quality programs for our young children. In Hawaii we have the opportunity to build a system of care for young children that will build on the strengths of both our public and private sector providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

From: Katherine Murphy, Executive Director
Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children (HAEYC)

Date: Thursday, January 31, 2013

Subject: HB 875, Relating to Exemptions from Child Care Licensing

House Bill 875 would add exemptions for any child care program licensed by the United States Department of Defense and the Hawaii Council of Private Schools to be exempt from licensing by the Department of Human Services. HAEYC respectfully opposes this bill in its current form. The Department of Human Services child care licensing process is more than sufficient in ensuring the basic health and safety for our youngest keiki. The additional licensing methods suggested in HB 875 have the potential to complicate the licensing process and place an additional burden on the Department.

HAEYC would like to continue to be a positive contributor to ongoing policy conversations about Hawaii's children. Our volunteers and staff would be happy to provide you with more information to facilitate your decision-making. Please contact us at (808) 942-4708 or haeyc@hawaiieyc.org.

HAEYC represents nearly 1,000 members who are early childhood development and educational professionals across the state.

HAEYC's mission is to promote, support, and expand quality and professionalism in early childhood programs and services for Hawaii's children (0-8) and their families.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Katherine E. Murphy
Executive Director
HAEYC