

JAN 23 2014

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) The department of human services shall
2 establish a public-private partnership pilot project to provide
3 early childhood education program services in which family
4 interaction is an integral component in the educational process.

5 An entity contracted pursuant to this Act shall include an
6 educational component within its program that strengthens the
7 family's understanding of early childhood development, provides
8 developmental screening, and prepares children for kindergarten.

9 (b) Pursuant to section 103F-402, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
10 the department of human services shall solicit proposals and
11 award contracts to eligible private providers of early childhood
12 education to provide an early childhood education program to
13 children across the State. Eligible providers shall incorporate
14 quality standards in their programs pursuant to subsection (e).

15 The department of human services may provide support to
16 providers to incorporate quality standards, including support
17 related to teacher-child interactions, individual child



1 assessments, and family engagement. Eligible providers shall
2 comply with all applicable state and federal laws.

3 (c) The early childhood education program shall serve
4 three- and four-year-old children, with priority extended to:

5 (1) Children in the year prior to being eligible to attend
6 kindergarten; and

7 (2) Underserved or at-risk children.

8 (d) Enrollment in the early childhood education program
9 shall be voluntary. A child who is enrolled in or eligible to
10 attend a public elementary school, or who is required to attend
11 school pursuant to section 302A-1132, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
12 shall not be eligible for enrollment in the early childhood
13 education program.

14 (e) Eligible providers of the early childhood education
15 program shall incorporate quality standards in their programs
16 that are research-based, developmentally appropriate practices
17 associated with better educational outcomes for children,
18 including:

19 (1) Positive teacher-child interactions;

20 (2) Use of individual child assessments that are used for
21 ongoing instructional planning, based upon all areas
22 of childhood development and learning, including



1 cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional
2 approaches to learning and health and physical
3 development;
4 (3) Family engagement; and
5 (4) Alignment with the Hawaii early learning and
6 development standards, which align with department of
7 education standards, including common core state
8 standards, state content and performance standards,
9 and general learner outcomes for grades kindergarten
10 to twelve, to facilitate a seamless and high-quality
11 educational experience for children.

12 (f) In addition to all other requirements imposed under
13 this section, eligible providers shall have operated an early
14 childhood education program for at least one year prior to being
15 contracted pursuant to this Act and provide to the department of
16 human services documentation of existing financial resources to
17 fund its educational program operations. Any provider that is
18 awarded a contract pursuant to this Act shall agree to obtain
19 and expend funding to match state funding provided under this
20 Act and submit quarterly reports to the department of human
21 services that document the contracted provider's expenditures of
22 moneys received by funding source.



1 (g) No state moneys appropriated pursuant to this Act
2 shall be expended by a contracted provider for administrative
3 costs.

4 (h) The department of human services shall monitor
5 implementation of the quality standards required under
6 subsection (e).

7 (i) The department of human services shall coordinate with
8 other departments, agencies, and programs to facilitate
9 comprehensive services for early childhood education.

10 (j) The department of human services shall collect data to
11 evaluate services provided, inform policy, and improve the
12 provision of early childhood education through the early
13 childhood education program.

14 (k) The department of human services shall adopt rules
15 pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, necessary to
16 carry out the purposes of this section, including compliance
17 with all applicable state and federal laws.

18 (l) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to enable the
19 establishment of a voucher program for educational purposes.

20 (m) For purposes of this Act:

21 "Family engagement" means practices that engage families in
22 meaningful ways and recognize the need for families to actively



1 support their child's learning and development, including
2 classrooms that make families feel welcome, communication with
3 families, the promotion of responsible parenting, and
4 involvement in decisions that affect families and their
5 children.

6 SECTION 2. The department of human services shall submit
7 an annual report on the pilot project, including the enrollment,
8 providers used, quality standards, rules adopted, data
9 collected, evaluations, and any proposed legislation, to the
10 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
11 each regular session, commencing with the regular session of
12 2015.

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for
16 purposes of this Act; provided that no funds appropriated by
17 this Act shall be expended unless the provider contracted
18 pursuant to this Act obtains matching funds from sources other
19 than the State and expends the funds on the early childhood
20 education program established pursuant to this Act.

21 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
22 human services for the purposes of this Act.



S.B. NO. 3112

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014, and
2 shall be repealed on June 30, 2019.

3

INTRODUCED BY:

Anna Mercedes King



S.B. NO. 3112

Report Title:

Early Childhood Education Program; Pilot Project; Appropriation

Description:

Require DHS to establish a public-private partnership pilot project to provide an early childhood education program. Appropriates funds.

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