
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD HEALTH.

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

PART I

1
2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii has served as
3 a pioneer and leader in population-based child health promotion,
4 identification, and intervention programs. These initiatives,
5 designed and field-tested in Hawaii, serve as the foundation for
6 health care delivery systems across the country for children
7 with special health care needs and their families, as well as
8 those who are at risk. The primary reason for Hawaii's status
9 as a pioneer stems from the vision, leadership, and
10 collaborative spirit of our kupuna, Dr. Setsu Furuno, Dr. Calvin
11 Sia, Josie Woll, Ivalee Sinclair, Loretta "Deliana" Fuddy, and
12 Ruth Ota who exemplified on a daily basis family-centered care
13 and upheld the principles of family-centered care in their quest
14 to identify and serve Hawaii's most vulnerable children in a
15 culturally-appropriate, comprehensive, and community-based
16 manner.



1 each year. This large system of services requires an updated
 2 web-based system to improve efficiency and quality of services.
 3 Thirty-four other states have web-based early intervention data
 4 systems. However, the State's early intervention section data
 5 system is antiquated and does not have the web-based capability
 6 for real-time access to data, access from multiple locations,
 7 service documentation, report generation, quality assurance, and
 8 billing services.

9 The purpose of this part is to appropriate funds for a web-
 10 based early intervention section data system.

11 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
 13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
 14 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
 15 year 2016-2017 to develop the specifications and pricing for, as
 16 well as an implementation plan, for a web-based data system in
 17 the early intervention section of the department of health.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 19 of health for the purposes of this part.

20 PART III



1 SECTION 4. Research on early childhood has shown the
2 importance of early life on social-emotional development, or how
3 children learn to express their feelings, form relationships,
4 and interact with others. The early years of life lay the
5 foundation for a child's future development. Intervening for
6 social-emotional and behavioral concerns in the early years can
7 reduce the need for more intensive behavioral and mental health
8 services in later life.

9 Of concern, data from the National Survey of Children's
10 Health, 2011-2012, shows that 31 per cent of Hawaii children age
11 four months to five years are at moderate or high risk for
12 developmental, behavioral, or social delays.

13 Resources to address social-emotional and behavioral
14 concerns in Hawaii decreased when funding for the department of
15 health's keiki care project ended in 2009. This statewide
16 project provided training, consultation, and technical
17 assistance to early childhood programs with children age three
18 to five with social-emotional or behavioral concerns. In fiscal
19 year 2008, the keiki care project provided services for one
20 hundred children with referral concerns that included physically
21 aggressive, non-compliant behaviors, sensory integration



1 concerns, high activity level, and anger management and impulse
2 control.

3 The department of health's preschool developmental
4 screening program, which also ended in 2009, trained community
5 providers in using screening tools, facilitated follow-up, and
6 provided consultation to community providers regarding
7 developmental and behavioral concerns and intervention
8 strategies.

9 Another Hawaii initiative that was not sustained due to
10 lack of funding was training and coaching to early childhood
11 programs to improve social and emotional outcomes. This was
12 done during 2007 to 2010, with support from a national resource
13 center, the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for
14 Early Learning.

15 To improve social-emotional and behavioral outcomes for
16 children from birth to age five, a statewide coordinator in the
17 department of health is needed to:

18 (1) Facilitate development of a statewide system that
19 supports positive social-emotional and behavioral
20 outcomes for young children by coordinating and
21 collaborating with the department of health,



1 department of human services, and department of
2 education, as well as early childhood programs and
3 associations, child health professionals and
4 associations, and other early childhood initiatives;

5 (2) Provide training on evidence-based effective
6 practices, technical assistance, and consultation to
7 equip early childhood providers with the appropriate
8 knowledge and skills to meet the social-emotional and
9 behavioral needs of young children;

10 (3) Identify areas for improvement or policy changes
11 through needs assessment and monitoring indicators of
12 social-emotional development;

13 (4) Promote the early identification of young children
14 with social-emotional and behavioral concerns through
15 developmental screening; and

16 (5) Promote the general health of children in child care
17 settings through the use of early childhood health and
18 wellness guidelines.

19 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and



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1 the same sum or so much thereof that may be necessary for fiscal
 2 year 2016-2017 for operating expenses and to establish one
 3 permanent coordinator position in the children with special
 4 health needs branch of the department of health to improve
 5 social-emotional and behavioral outcomes for children from birth
 6 to age five years.

7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 8 of health for the purposes of this part.

PART IV

10 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

11 INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 29 2015



H.B. NO. 1377

Report Title:

Keiki Caucus; Child Health; Early Intervention; Appropriation

Description:

Makes an appropriation to develop the specifications and pricing for, as well as an implementation plan, for a web-based data system in the early intervention section of the department of health. Makes an appropriation for operating expenses and to establish one permanent coordinator position in the children with special health needs branch of the department of health to improve social-emotional and behavioral outcomes for children birth to age five years.

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