
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD HEALTH.

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

1 PART I

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

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

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

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

19 PART III

20 SECTION 4. Research on early childhood has shown the
21 importance of early life to social-emotional development, or how



1 children learn to express their feelings, form relationships,
2 and interact with others. The early years of life lay the
3 foundation for a child's future development. Intervention for
4 social-emotional and behavioral concerns in the early years can
5 reduce the need for more intensive behavioral and mental health
6 services in later life.

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

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



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

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

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

16 (1) Facilitate development of a statewide system that
17 supports positive social-emotional and behavioral
18 outcomes for young children by coordinating and
19 collaborating with the department of health,
20 department of human services, and department of
21 education, as well as early childhood programs and



1 coordinator position in the children with special health needs
2 branch of the department of health to improve social-emotional
3 and behavioral outcomes for children from birth to age five
4 years.

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

7 PART IV

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Keiki Caucus; Child Health; Early Intervention; Appropriation

Description:

Makes an appropriation to develop the specifications and pricing, 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 from birth to age five. (HB1377 HD1)

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