
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.

17 The purpose of this Act is to honor the legacy of Hawaii's
18 health pioneers by appropriating funds to support a well-



1 functioning early intervention system of services for children
2 from birth to age three and to improve the developmental,
3 social-emotional, and behavioral outcomes for children from
4 birth to age five.

5 PART II

6 SECTION 2. The department of health provides early
7 intervention services to infants and toddlers who have
8 developmental delay or are at risk for delay based on medical
9 conditions. These services are mandated by Part C of the
10 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and by section
11 321-352, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to early intervention
12 services for infants and toddlers with special needs. Early
13 access to services combined with parent training have proven to
14 reduce and or eliminate delay and better prepare families of
15 children with complex needs who may require lifelong care and
16 support.

17 The department of health provides early intervention
18 services through nineteen state and purchase-of-service
19 programs, with services provided to approximately three thousand
20 five hundred children each year. This large system of services
21 requires an updated web-based system to improve efficiency and



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

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

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

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

18 PART III

19 SECTION 4. The early years of life lay the foundation for
20 a child's future development. Intervention for developmental,



1 social-emotional, and behavioral concerns in the early years can
2 reduce the need for more intensive services in later life.

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

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

18 The department of health's preschool developmental
19 screening program, which also ended in 2009, trained community
20 providers in using screening tools, facilitated follow-up, and
21 provided consultation to community providers regarding



1 developmental and behavioral concerns and intervention
2 strategies.

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

9 To improve developmental, social-emotional, and behavioral
10 outcomes for children from birth to age five, a statewide
11 coordinator in the department of health is needed to:

12 (1) Facilitate development of a statewide system that
13 supports positive developmental, social-emotional, and
14 behavioral outcomes for young children by coordinating
15 and collaborating within the department of health, and
16 with the department of human services, department of
17 education, and the executive office on early learning,
18 as well as early childhood programs and associations,
19 child health professionals and associations, and other
20 early childhood initiatives;



- 1 (2) Provide training on evidence-based effective
2 practices, technical assistance, and consultation to
3 equip early childhood providers with the appropriate
4 knowledge and skills to meet the developmental,
5 social-emotional, and behavioral needs of young
6 children;
- 7 (3) Identify areas for improvement or policy changes
8 through needs assessment and monitoring indicators of
9 early childhood development;
- 10 (4) Promote the early identification of young children
11 with developmental, social-emotional, and behavioral
12 concerns through developmental screening and follow-
13 up;
- 14 (5) Promote follow-up for young children with
15 developmental, social-emotional, and behavioral
16 concerns who are not eligible for early intervention
17 services under Part C of the Individuals with
18 Disabilities Education Act; and
- 19 (6) Promote the general health of children in child care
20 settings through the use of early childhood health and
21 wellness guidelines.



1 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
4 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
5 2016-2017 for operating expenses and to establish one permanent
6 coordinator position in the children with special health needs
7 branch of the department of health to improve developmental,
8 social-emotional, social-emotional and behavioral outcomes for
9 children from birth to age five years.

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

12 PART IV

13 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 developmental, social-emotional, and behavioral outcomes for children from birth to age five. (SD1)

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