



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 17, 2015

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing
and

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Chun Oakland, Senator Green, and Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: HB 1377 HD1 – Relating to Child Health

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF HB 1377 HD1**. The bill makes an appropriation to develop the specifications and pricing for, as well as, an implementation plan, a web-based data system in the early intervention section of the Department of Health (DOH), and makes an appropriation for operating expenses and to establish one permanent coordinator position in the Children with Special Health Needs Branch of DOH to improve social-emotional and behavioral outcomes for children birth to age five years.

Based on the mandated responsibilities under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Sections 321-352, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to early intervention services for infants and toddlers with special needs, and the numerous State and purchase of services programs, it is imperative to have an updated data system that will contribute to the overall efficiency of the early intervention services program under DOH.

Equally important for an efficient service delivery system is the provision of quality services that is supported by ongoing training and consultation through a designated permanent full-time statewide coordinator position. The Council agrees with the justification for the need of a statewide coordinator as indicated on pages 5-6 to improve social-emotional and behavioral outcomes for children from birth to age five years.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland
The Honorable Josh Green
Page 2
March 17, 2015

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **supporting the intent of
HB 1377 HD1.**

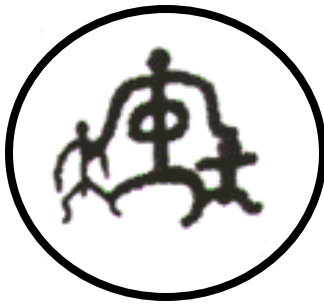
Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, M.S.W.
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe
Chair



HAWAII EARLY INTERVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL

1350 South King St. Suite 200 ☞ Honolulu Hawai'i 96814

Date: March 13, 2015

To: COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING & HEALTH
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Chair

Fr: Michael C. Fahey, Chair, Hawaii Early Intervention Coordinating Council

Re: **SUPPORT** – HB-1377 – Relating to Child Health

On behalf of the Hawaii Early Intervention Coordinating Council (HEICC), I submit this testimony in support of HB 1377 which is 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. HB 1377 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.

The HEICC is the federally mandated advisory council in Hawaii for the services and programs defined in Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. As such, it is the Council's responsibility to advise support for this measure for the following reasons:

1. Due to the state's economic constraints, it is appropriate to explore a more effective and efficient system of data collection that could ultimately save the state money and streamline the record keeping and reporting process for early intervention providers.
2. The state has a responsibility to identify young children with disabilities from birth, and currently there is no coordinator to ensure that the successful characteristics of a thriving system are in place and operational to improve social-emotional and behavioral outcomes for our children birth to age five years.

For these reasons, the HEICC supports this measure. Thank you for your time and consideration.

