

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a public  
2 benefit from substantial investment in high-quality,  
3 developmentally appropriate early learning programs. These  
4 investments have been driven by significant and continuing  
5 research affirming the positive effects of high-quality early  
6 learning programs on the physical, cognitive, linguistic,  
7 social, emotional, and economic outcomes of young children.  
8 Provided with such opportunities, children are more likely to  
9 succeed in kindergarten and beyond, and grow into healthy,  
10 capable, and contributing adults.

11           Longitudinal studies have also proven that high-quality  
12 early learning programs are especially effective for high-risk  
13 children, including low-income and otherwise disadvantaged  
14 children, with great potential to alter their lifetime  
15 trajectories. Well-executed and well-targeted early learning  
16 programs have immediate and long-term benefits not only for the  
17 children participating in the programs, but also for the



1 societies in which they live, which boast higher levels of  
2 educational attainment; reduced homelessness, crime, and  
3 substance abuse; improved health; and better overall social and  
4 economic well-being.

5 The legislature further finds that although the department  
6 of education administers programs of education and public  
7 instruction throughout the State, including special education  
8 and Title I funded programs at the prekindergarten level, the  
9 executive office on early learning, under policies established  
10 by the early learning board, shall be responsible for the  
11 administration of programs related to state-funded  
12 prekindergarten.

13 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the executive  
14 office on early learning to act as the lead administrator of  
15 state-funded early learning programs, except for special  
16 education and Title I funded programs.

17 SECTION 2. Section 26-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 "§26-12 Department of education. The department of  
20 education shall be headed by an executive board to be known as  
21 the board of education.



1 Under policies established by the board, the superintendent  
2 shall administer programs of education and public instruction  
3 throughout the State, including education at the primary and  
4 secondary school levels, adult education, school library  
5 services, health education and instruction (not including dental  
6 health treatment transferred to the department of health),  
7 special education and Title I funded programs at the  
8 prekindergarten level, and such other programs as may be  
9 established by law. The executive office on early learning,  
10 under policies established by the early learning board, shall be  
11 responsible for the administration of programs related to state-  
12 funded prekindergarten, except for special education and Title I  
13 funded programs. The state librarian, under policies  
14 established by the board of education, shall be responsible for  
15 the administration of programs relating to public library  
16 services and transcribing services for the blind.

17 The functions and authority heretofore exercised by the  
18 department of education (except dental health treatment  
19 transferred to the department of health), library of Hawaii,  
20 Hawaii county library, Maui county library, and the transcribing  
21 services program of the bureau of sight conservation and work



1 with the blind, as heretofore constituted are transferred to the  
2 public library system established by this chapter.

3 The management contract between the board of supervisors of  
4 the county of Kauai and the Kauai public library association  
5 shall be terminated at the earliest time after November 25,  
6 1959, permissible under the terms of the contract and the  
7 provisions of this paragraph shall constitute notice of  
8 termination, and the functions and authority heretofore  
9 exercised by the Kauai county library as heretofore constituted  
10 and the Kauai public library association over the public  
11 libraries in the county of Kauai shall thereupon be transferred  
12 to the public library system established by this chapter.

13 The management contracts between the trustees of the  
14 library of Hawaii and the Friends of the Library of Hawaii, and  
15 between the library of Hawaii and the Hilo library and reading  
16 room association, shall be terminated at the earliest time after  
17 November 25, 1959, permissible under the terms of the contracts,  
18 and the provisions of this paragraph shall constitute notice of  
19 termination.

20 Upon the termination of the contracts, the State or the  
21 counties shall not enter into any library management contracts



1 with any private association; provided that in providing library  
2 services the board of education may enter into contracts  
3 approved by the governor for the use of lands, buildings,  
4 equipment, and facilities owned by any private association.

5 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the board of  
6 education may establish, specify the membership number and  
7 quorum requirements for, appoint members to, and disestablish a  
8 commission in each county to be known as the library advisory  
9 commission, which shall in each case sit in an advisory capacity  
10 to the board of education on matters relating to public library  
11 services in their respective county."

12 SECTION 3. Section 302A-1111, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

14 "(a) Under policies established by the board, the  
15 superintendent shall be designated as the chief executive  
16 officer of the public school system having jurisdiction over the  
17 internal organization, operation, and management of the public  
18 school system, as provided by law; and shall administer programs  
19 of education and public instruction throughout the State,  
20 including education at the primary and secondary school levels,  
21 and such other programs as may be established by law[-];



1 provided that state-funded prekindergarten programs other than  
2 special education and Title I funded programs shall be  
3 administered by the executive office on early learning."

4 SECTION 4. Section 302A-1128, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "§302A-1128 Department powers and duties. The department  
7 shall have entire charge and control and be responsible for the  
8 conduct of all affairs pertaining to public instruction in the  
9 public schools the department establishes and operates,  
10 including operating and maintaining the capital improvement and  
11 repair and maintenance programs for department and school  
12 facilities. The department may establish and maintain schools  
13 for secular instruction at such places and for such terms as in  
14 its discretion it may deem advisable and the funds at its  
15 disposal may permit. The schools may include high schools,  
16 kindergarten schools, [~~schools or classes for early childhood~~  
17 ~~education,~~] boarding schools, Hawaiian language medium education  
18 schools, and evening and day schools. The department may also  
19 maintain classes for technical and other instruction in any  
20 school where there may not be pupils sufficient in number to





# H.B. NO. 921

**Report Title:**

DOE; Executive Office on Early Learning; Appropriation

**Description:**

Housekeeping amendments relating to the transfer of early childhood education from the Department of Education to the Executive Office on Early Learning.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

