

JAN 18 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD CARE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii has some of
2 the nation's highest child care costs, and a lack of access to
3 affordable child care is a burden to families and contributes
4 substantially to the State's high cost of living. According to
5 a report by the national clearinghouse Child Care Aware, Hawaii
6 ranks as the eighth least affordable state for center-based
7 infant child care and the tenth least affordable state for
8 center-based toddler care. The average annual cost of center-
9 based infant care in the State is \$13,704, which is more than
10 the cost of annual in-state tuition at the University of Hawaii
11 at Manoa. The annual cost of center-based toddler care, at
12 \$11,664, is similarly high.

13 The legislature further finds that there is a great unmet
14 need for child care in the State. There are an estimated 66,262
15 children in Hawaii under the age of six who potentially need
16 child care. This stands in contrast to the 35,662 child care
17 slots that are available in the State. Both the high cost and



1 lack of access to high-quality child care make it difficult for
2 families in Hawaii to work and thrive.

3 The legislature finds that providing child care to State
4 employees and their families can help address the State's child
5 care needs. Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to
6 establish two child care centers on Oahu for state employees and
7 their families, specifically one in or around the state capitol
8 building and one in Kapolei.

9 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
10 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
11 as follows:

12 "CHAPTER

13 STATE EMPLOYEE CHILD CARE CENTERS

14 § -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

15 "Child care center" means a group child care center as
16 defined in section 346-151.

17 "Department" means the department of accounting and general
18 services.

19 "Eligible children" are children who have a parent,
20 grandparent, aunt, uncle, or legal guardian who is an employee
21 of the State.



1 "Employee" means any full-time employee of the State,
2 including any appointed or elected officer, legislator, justice,
3 or judge.

4 § -2 Child care centers for eligible children of state
5 employees; established. (a) The department, by contract, shall
6 establish, equip, and operate on the island of Oahu two child
7 care centers for eligible children of state employees; provided
8 that one child care center shall be located in or near the state
9 capitol building and one child care center shall be located in
10 Kapolei.

11 (b) Child care centers established under this section may
12 be located in state-owned office buildings, educational
13 facilities and institutions, custodial facilities and
14 institutions, and buildings or spaces used for legislative
15 activities. Centers may also be located in privately owned
16 facilities located in convenient proximity to the place of
17 employment of the employees to be served by the centers.

18 (c) An operator of a child care center under this section
19 shall be selected in accordance with chapter 103D.

20 (d) The child care centers established under this section
21 shall provide full-time child care during weekdays on which a



1 majority of state employees are on duty, beginning at least one
2 half hour before the regular work day begins and ending no
3 earlier than one half hour after that work day ends.

4 (e) The department, by rule, may establish fees to be
5 charged to employees to offset the cost of providing child care
6 services; provided that the fees shall be as minimal as is
7 practicable.

8 (f) The department may accept money, equipment, or other
9 property donated for use in connection with the provision of
10 child care services.

11 (g) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit
12 a child care center established under this section from
13 accepting children of non-state employees if space is available;
14 provided that fees charged for services shall be as minimal as
15 practicable.

16 (h) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter
17 91 as necessary to implement this chapter."

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the



S.B. NO. 1021

1 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
2 2020-2021 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
4 of accounting and general services for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

6

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S.B. NO. 1021

Report Title:

DAGS; Child Care Centers for Eligible Children of State Employees; Appropriations

Description:

Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to establish and operate two child care centers on Oahu for eligible children of state employees, one in or near the state capitol and one in Kapolei. Appropriates funds.

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

