
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE EARLY CHILDHOOD REGISTRY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a strong early
2 childcare and education workforce is necessary to support
3 Hawaii's children, working families, and communities. The
4 legislature further finds that the demand for quality early
5 childcare and education far exceeds the currently available and
6 qualified early childcare capacity of the State. The
7 legislature also finds that disruptions to the early childcare
8 and education system due to the ongoing coronavirus disease 2019
9 pandemic have created more challenges to expanding access to
10 quality, affordable early childcare and education programs.

11 According to the Center for the Study of Child Care
12 Employment, the lack of early childcare and education workforce
13 data prevents policymakers from understanding the needs of this
14 workforce, which may then lead to inefficiencies regarding
15 legislation for early childcare and education programs. The
16 legislature recognizes that workforce registries have been used
17 to provide an objective framework for professional development



1 and compensation. The legislature further recognizes that
2 timely, clear, and detailed data on early childcare workers and
3 educators is critical to ensure and increase the quality of
4 these workers and educators in the State, and will help to craft
5 data-informed policies.

6 Currently, the department of human services only requires
7 the staff used to meet the staff-child ratio in licensed
8 childcare facilities to enroll and update their information on
9 its early childhood registry. Given the need to expand the
10 availability of access to high-quality early childcare and
11 education programs in the State, the legislature also recognizes
12 that data in the Hawaii early childhood registry must be
13 consistently collected and analyzed.

14 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to address the
15 needs of Hawaii's early childcare and education workforce by
16 requiring the department of human services to annually collect
17 certain information from all early childcare workers and
18 educators in the State through its early childhood registry.

19 SECTION 2. The department of human services shall require
20 all staff used to meet the staff-child ratio in both licensed
21 and registered childcare programs in the State to annually



1 update their information in its early childhood registry. The
2 data collected from the early childhood registry shall include
3 social determinates, including but not limited to: gender,
4 race, age, paid years of experience, preferred learning
5 languages, languages spoken with children, median hourly wage,
6 paid planning time, health insurance, paid sick leave, paid
7 vacation, retirement benefits, participation in an
8 apprenticeship program, level of education, and training hours.
9 Training includes but is not limited to health and safety
10 training and voluntary professional development training. The
11 data collected shall not include the first or last names of
12 staff members.

13 SECTION 3. The department of human services shall submit a
14 report of its findings and recommendations, including any
15 proposed legislation, regarding updates to the early childhood
16 registry to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to
17 the convening of the regular session of 2024.

18 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$80,000 or so much
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the
21 purpose of improving the State's early childhood registry.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
2 human services for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on December 31,
4 2050.



Report Title:

Early Childhood Registry; Department of Human Services;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires the staff of licensed and registered early childhood programs to annually provide specific information to the Department of Human Services' Early Childhood Workforce Registry. Requires a report to the Legislature. Makes an appropriation. Effective 12/31/2050. (SD1)

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