

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**  
P.O. BOX 150  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE  
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

**WRITTEN ONLY**  
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, &  
HOMELESSNESS  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 2700, S.D. 2

**March 17, 2022**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**Room 329 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO THE EARLY CHILDHOOD REGISTRY

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 2700, S.D. 2: 1) amends Chapter 346, HRS, to require early childcare workers who staff licensed or registered childcare programs to annually provide the Department of Human Services (DHS) certain data via the early childhood registry; 2) set reporting requirements for DHS related to the early childcare workforce data collected; and 3) appropriate an unspecified amount of general funds to DHS in FY 23 for improving the early childhood registry.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**Executive Office on Early Learning**  
2759 South King Street  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

March 16, 2022

**TO:** Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Representative Adrian K. Tam, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness

**FROM:** Coleen Momohara, Interim Director  
Executive Office on Early Learning

**SUBJECT: Measure:** S.B. No. 2700 S.D 2 – RELATING TO THE EARLY CHILDHOOD  
REGISTRY  
**Hearing Date:** Thursday, March 17, 2022  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m.  
**Location:** Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

**Bill 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. (SD2.)

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: Supports the Intent**

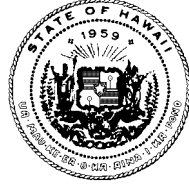
Aloha. I am Coleen Momohara, Interim Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL supports the intent of S.B. No. 2700 S.D. 2 and defers to the Department of Human Services (DHS).

EOEL is statutorily responsible for the development of the State's early childhood system that shall ensure a spectrum of high-quality development and learning opportunities for children throughout the state, from prenatal care until the time they enter kindergarten, with priority given to underserved or at-risk children.

EOEL recognizes that data collection not only helps to provide more robust information necessary for the implementation of programs and services that impact young children and the adults that care for them, but also in informing policy-making and ensuring more productive and successful public policies. Currently, DHS contracts with People Attentive to Children (PATCH) to maintain the early childhood registry database for child care staff in licensed group child care centers, group child care homes, and infant and toddler centers. The provisions in this bill would require more robust information be collected by a greater share of child care providers, helping us to better understand the early learning workforce. EOEL defers to the DHS as it pertains to this bill, particularly on implementation and funding needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS  
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 15, 2022

TO: The Honorable Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 2700 SD2 – RELATING TO THE EARLY CHILDHOOD REGISTRY.**

Hearing: Thursday, March 17, 2022, 9:30 a.m.  
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of the bill, provides comments, and requests amendments. DHS respectfully requests that any appropriation not reduce or replace priorities identified in the executive budget.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the bill is to require 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. (SD2)

The SD1 amended the measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Human Services shall not collect first or last names of staff as part of the data collected for the Registry;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of December 31, 2050, to encourage further discussion;  
and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

The SD2 amended the measure by:

- (1) Codifying in statute, rather than session law, the requirement that the Department of Human Services direct staff of certain childcare programs to update information in the Department's early childhood registry;
- (2) Clarifying the Department of Human Services' reporting requirements;
- (3) Changing the appropriation from \$80,000 to an unspecified amount to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (4) Making technical nonsubstantive changes for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

The Department respectfully requests the following amendments:

- On page 3, inserting the following as a new paragraph (a) to the proposed statute to define the early childhood registry and its purpose:  
"(a) The department may establish and maintain an information system to be designated as the early childhood registry. The purpose of the registry shall be to maintain a repository of early childhood provider and staff information that is collected annually pursuant to this section."
- Renumbering existing part (a) to part (b);
- Correcting "determinates" to "determinants" on page 3, line 6;
- Removing the sentence, on page 3, lines 12 through 13, as the first and last name information would be needed for registry data collection purposes;
- Renumbering part (b) on page 3, line 14 to part (c); and
- Inserting the following as part (d) to recognize the need to ensure confidentiality practices as it relates to any disclosure of information that may be permitted:  
"(d) Any records or reports containing registry information and subject to public disclosure shall be limited to aggregate data and shall not directly contain nor indirectly result in the disclosure of personally identifiable information."

The Department currently has a contract with People Attentive to Children (PATCH) to maintain the early childhood registry database for child care staff in licensed group child care centers, group child care homes, and infant and toddler centers. To meet this measure's goals, registered family child care providers will need to be added to the early childhood registry database.

Additionally, the early childhood database would need to be modified to capture the social determinants information identified in the measure of each child care staff in licensed and registered family child care homes and centers. The Department will also need to write administrative rules to require that the information be reported annually.

If the measure passes, DHS respectfully requests that the effective date be after or later than December 31, 2022, to give DHS time to make the necessary program and system changes and develop administrative processes and rules.

The Department's current program demands and efforts are focused on complying with provisions of the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant, which provides approximately \$30 million annually in federal Child Care and Development Fund grants. Additionally, DHS is in the process of distributing \$70 million in child care stabilization funds appropriated through the American Rescue Plan Act.

As the session progresses, DHS will update the resources needed to implement such a program. Lastly, we ask that any appropriation not supplant fiscal priorities identified in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



To: House Committee on Health, Human Services, and Homelessness  
Hearing Date/Time: March 17, 2022 9:30AM  
Re: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB2700 SD2

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Tam, and the Members of Committee,

Members of AAUW of Hawaii thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB2700 SD2 which would improve the data collection of the Early Childhood Registry.

Hawaii would need over 9,300 early childhood educators and we currently have closer to 4,000. This is only an estimate since we are using national data sources which do not capture Hawaii's local system. We need better data so we can better understand what we need to do to grow the childcare workforce.

Without the childcare capacity, more women in Hawaii will be forced to leave the labor force. Women already shoulder a disproportionate burden of child care responsibilities: about 27% of mothers stay at home (versus 7% fathers), three fourth of the mothers who stay at home do so to care for family (versus one fourth of the fathers) according to a 2018 survey from Pew Research. Being forced to leave the labor force to do unpaid care work limits women's advancement and corresponding pay increases, contributing to the gender pay gap. The gender pay gap also continues into retirement, with the 2019 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey showing a nearly 30% difference in total retirement income between men and women. There are serious and disproportionate financial barriers to seniors aging in place and avoiding institutionalization.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawaii is an all volunteer, statewide chapter of a national organization and is made up of six branches: Hilo, Honolulu, Kaua'i, Kona, Maui, and Windward Oahu. UH Hilo, UH Manoa, UH Maui College, and Windward Community College are also AAUW partners. AAUW's mission is to advance gender equity for equal opportunities in education, at workplace and for economic security, and in leadership.

Please pass this important measure.

with Aloha,



Younghee Overly

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Y. Overly".

Public Policy Chair, AAUW of Hawaii  
publicpolicy-hi@aauw.net



Date: March 16, 2022

To: House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness  
Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Representative Adrian Tam, Vice Chair

From: Early Childhood Action Strategy

Re: **Support for SB2700 SD2, Relating to the Early Childhood Registry**

---

Early Childhood Action Strategy (ECAS) is a statewide cross-sector collaborative designed to improve the system of care for Hawai'i's youngest children and their families. ECAS partners work to align priorities for children prenatal to age eight, streamline services, maximize resources, and improve programs to support our youngest keiki.

**ECAS strongly supports passage of SB2700 SD2**, which would require annual data collection on the child care workforce and make an appropriation to the Department of Human Services to invest in updating the technology supporting the Early Childhood Registry.

High-quality child care and early learning programs are fundamental to thriving children, flourishing families, and a robust economy. An effective, well-trained, early childhood workforce is the backbone of these programs. There is no comprehensive data, however, on the early care and learning workforce in Hawaii. Hawaii lacks basic information on who is caring for our keiki, forcing us to rely on national data that does not capture our local context. Additionally, the current system is time consuming and administratively burdensome for providers, further hampering the collection of key data critical to informing policy, administrative, regulatory and funding decisions related to child care and early learning in Hawaii.

Hawaii would need to more than double the estimated 4,000 early childhood workers in the state to support the 14,500 children between birth and age 5 needing child care. Action is needed to address the significant information-gap so we can better understand how to maintain and grow the state's early care and learning workforce and expand access to child care for Hawaii's children and families. Passage of **SB2700 SD2** would take an important step towards this effort.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony **in support of SB2700 SD2**.



To: Representative Yamane, Chair  
Representative Tam, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness

Re: **SB 2700 SD2- Relating to the early childhood registry**  
9:30 AM, March 17, 2022

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Tam, and committee members,

On behalf of HCAN Speaks!, thank you for the opportunity to **testify in strong support of Senate bill 2700 SD2, relating to the early childhood registry. By making the registry required for a greater share of child care providers and requiring information be updated annually, we will be better informed to make improvements for our early care and learning workforce and programs. The measure also includes an appropriation for DHS to improve their current registry- which is critical so the additional information is not a burden to providers.**

[The American Rescue Plan Act allocated over \\$49M](#) in supplemental child care development discretionary funding. The Department of Human Services (DHS) has not released a plan for how they plan to utilize this funding. [A federal Office of Child Care memo strongly encourages states to use this supplemental funding to modernize data systems.](#) With the availability of funding to pursue data systems and technology specific for the child care registry, rather than its current location embedded in the state's Hawaii Automated Network of Assistance, we believe now is the ideal time to improve data collection and data systems to improve our child care system in the state.

The purpose of this measure is to report aggregate data so we can better understand the intricacies of the early care and learning sector. Although personal information is collected, personal information would NOT be reported out. Currently, the Department of Human Services collects names and social security numbers but they do not make that information public.

We lack the data necessary to understand our child care workforce, which hinders are ability to create strategic policy to address the critical workforce shortage. The Early Childhood Data Collaborative asks communities if they can answer these questions to understand if they have a data deficit<sup>1</sup>:

- What is the median wage of early educators by role and qualification level?
- What percentage of early educators already hold an associate's degree, bachelor's degree,

---

<sup>1</sup> Center for the Study of Child Care Employment and The Early Childhood Data Collaborative, 2019, *A workforce data deficit hinders improved preparation, support, and compensation of early childhood educators*, <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/a-workforce-data-deficit-hinders-improved-preparation-support-and-compensation-of-early-childhood-educators/>

or higher? Does this vary across settings and geographic regions, or demographics?

Considering we do not collect information from all child care providers, Hawai'i would have a difficult time answering these questions. Attached is the required information collected by our registry for people working in child care centers.<sup>2</sup> Hawai'i's Early Childhood Registry is optional for family child care providers and between January 2016 and November 2021, 27 family child care providers had applied or updated their information in the registry<sup>3</sup>. That is 27 out of over 300 registered family child care providers. Additionally, for the majority there is no requirement to update information in the registry, so what little data we have may be outdated.

Relying on national data can result in misunderstanding what's happening on the ground. Compare the findings using the national data set and the state's registry report in Illinois. The national Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics data set states the median wage of a child worker is \$13.09 in Illinois. The [Illinois' Early Childhood Education Workforce Report](#) shows that the median wage for Licensed Center Teacher is \$13.85 but the median wage for the Licensed Center Assistant teacher is \$11.00. The national data does not account for the different categories of early childhood educator and is insufficient to understand the state context.

Additionally, our current registry system is an administrative burden to child care providers. States that have made progress in planning for the future of early care and learning have made the investments in upgrading the registry system, so it is viewed as an asset instead of a barrier.

If we want to serve all children who need care and access to early learning programs, we must correct the data deficit and improve our collection and registry system.

**For these reasons, HCAN Speaks! respectfully requests the Committee to support this measure.**

Thank you,  
Kathleen Algire  
Director, Early Learning and Health Policy

---

<sup>2</sup> Hawai'i Department of Human Services Early Childhood Registry, <http://16pqt945xhpi2jqbw34qwyw-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Form-1.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Hawai'i Early Childhood Registry data request fulfilled by Department of Human Services in December 2021.

# Form 1

Required for Employment in  
Center-Based Programs



## Hawaii Department of Human Services Early Childhood Registry

For Office Use Only

Received Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position at ECC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position at IT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position at MS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Framework Level: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Renewal Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Application  
(check one):

- New to Registry
- Renewal/Update
- Replacement/Lost

Participation in the Registry is required by the Department of Human Services (DHS) for employment in state licensed center-based programs. The Registry assists DHS in confirming your education and training experience to determine the position(s) you qualify for under state child care licensing rules. Once your application is processed, you will receive a Registry Certificate and be eligible for employment. If you are updating, you may receive a new Registry Certificate if your qualifications have changed. **ORIGINAL applications only. NO faxed, copied, or emailed applications accepted.**  
 Please print clearly

SECTION A: PERSONAL INFORMATION			
		<input type="checkbox"/> No updates to this section	<input type="checkbox"/> Update this section
* Legal Name Last	First	MI	Caregiver ID:
* Social Security No:	* Birth Date:		* Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
* Home Address			Unit No:
* City:	* State:	* Zip:	
Mailing Address, if different:			Unit No:
City:	State:	Zip:	
Email Address (optional):	Phone:	Alt. Phone:	
SECTION B: IF APPLICABLE, CURRENT EARLY CHILDHOOD RELATED EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE DIRECTOR)			
		<input type="checkbox"/> No updates to this section	<input type="checkbox"/> Update this section <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Business Name:		Site Name (if business has multiple sites):	
Site Mailing Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
Applicant's Current Position:	<input type="checkbox"/> Full-time <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time @ _____ hours/week		
Applicant's Date of Hire: (MUST BE EMPLOYED)      /      / (month / day / year)	Facility Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Center based <input type="checkbox"/> Home based <input type="checkbox"/> School aged		
Age worked with: Check all applicable boxes <input type="checkbox"/> Infants-Toddlers (6wks-35 mos) <input type="checkbox"/> Preschool (3-5 yrs) <input type="checkbox"/> FQCH <input type="checkbox"/> School aged (K-13 yrs.)			
Director's Name:	Phone:	Email:	
* Initial all that has been completed. Required in order to process Registry application.			
_____ All employment verification has been completed for this individual (including that listed in Section D of this application). This will be used to determine if the applicant meets the DHS experience requirement.			
_____ Orientation training has been completed for this individual.			
* Director's signature			Date:
<input type="checkbox"/> Center Director		<input type="checkbox"/> School Principal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources Officer		<input type="checkbox"/> Owner	

\* REQUIRED INFORMATION

April 2017

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 5:55:15 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why are reporting Every dam thing to the Government the just Fook it up anyway!!!

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 8:38:49 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
tia pearson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**There is no comprehensive national data on the early care and learning workforce. The state should take action to address this missing data so we can better understand how to maintain and grow the workforce.**

**Hawai'i would need over 9,300 early childhood educators to support the number of children needing care,14,500 for all children between birth and age 5. Currently, we have closer to 4,000. But that is only an estimate since we are using national data sources that do not capture our local system.**

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 9:20:29 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Absolutely essential for child safety, wellbeing.

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 8:53:11 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erica Yamauchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing today in strong support of SB 2700, a key priority to help solve Hawai'i's child care crisis. This bill would help improve the state's childcare workforce data to better understand how to improve and grow the field. We can make better decisions and explore families' needs better if we have better data.

Thank you for your consideration.

Erica Yamauchi, Kaimukī/Wilhelmina Rise



**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 9:24:44 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chris Barzman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good bill that will help Hawaii's families.

March 15, 2022

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee members,

I sincerely appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony for House Bill **SB 2700/HB 2193, relating to the early childhood registry**. This bill seeks to make annual data collection for the Early Childhood Registry mandatory which would broaden those required to provide information. It also appropriates funding to DHS to update the registry to improve the technology of the registry so the increased requirements do not become a barrier for providers.

Please support SB 2700/HB 2193, that would require annual data collection on the child care workforce and make an appropriation to the Department of Human Services to invest in updating the Early Childhood Registry. Hawai'i lacks basic information on who is caring for our keiki. We rely on national data but it does not capture our local context. Additionally, the current system is time consuming for providers and is an administrative burden. If we hope to improve our early care and learning system, we must have the data and information to do so.

Please support this measure.

Respectfully,

Helen Au, Ph.D., M.Ed.

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 11:35:44 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alice Luck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair, Vice Chair, and committee members,

Please support SB 2700/HB 2193, that would require annual data collection on the child care workforce and make an appropriation to the Department of Human Services to invest in updating the Early Childhood Registry. Hawai'i lacks basic information on who is caring for our keiki. We rely on national data but it does not capture our local context. Additionally, the current system is time consuming for providers and is an administrative burden. If we hope to improve our early care and learning system, we must have the data and information to do so.

Please support this measure.

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 1:58:15 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
claudia c k quintanilla	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of SB2700

Mahalo!

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 2:52:38 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jasmine Slovak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness Hearing  
Thursday, March 17, 2022, 10:00 AM HST

Aloha mai kākou,

Mahalo nui iā Chair YAMANE, Vice-Chair TAM, and members of the House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness for holding a hearing for SB2700 SD2.

My name is Jasmine Slovak; I'm an O'ahu resident and I ask that you please support SB 2700. This bill would require annual data collection on the child care workforce and make an appropriation to the Department of Human Services to invest in updating the Early Childhood Registry. Hawai'i lacks basic information on who is caring for our keiki. We rely on national data but it does not capture our local context. Additionally, the current system is time-consuming for providers and is an administrative burden. If we hope to improve our early care and learning system, we must have the data and information to do so.

I humbly ask that you please support this measure in support of our future generations in Hawai'i.

E mālama pono,

Jasmine Slovak

Mar. 15, 2022

To: Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Representative Adrian K. Tam, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Health, Human Services, and Homelessness

From: Dr. Terry Lock, Director  
Hawai'i Early Childhood Educator Excellence and Equity Project  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Education

Subject: Measure – SB 2700 SD2  
RELATING TO THE EARLY CHILDHOOD REGISTRY  
Hearing Date – March 17, 2022  
Time – 9:30 AM  
Location: Room 329 and videoconference

My name is Dr. Terry Lock. I am with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Education and currently serve as the director of the Hawai'i Early Childhood Educator Excellence and Equity Project. The goal of this project is to transform early childhood education lead teacher preparation programs and compensation/ financing systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I strongly support SB 2700 SD2. This bill seeks to improve the data collection of the Early Childhood Registry and makes an appropriation so the Department of Human Services (DHS) can update the workforce registry technology.

Early childhood educators play an essential role in our state. Skilled and knowledgeable early childhood educators are one of the most important factors contributing to quality early childhood education. They set the foundation for our children's academic, health, and social development, as well as contribute to Hawai'i's economic success by caring for young children so parents can work. Despite working in an essential occupation, Hawai'i's early childhood educators are often unseen by policymakers.

Hawai'i lacks basic information on who is caring for our keiki. The absence of good data allows our own perspectives and bias to drive policy decisions. Often our state relies on national data but it does not capture our local context. Without quality comprehensive state early childhood workforce data, it's impossible to answer questions, like: Who constitutes the early childhood workforce? How does the early childhood workforce vary by county, island, district, and community? What is their current education and compensation levels? Which educators receive crucial supports, like paid time for

planning and reflection to improve their practice in the classroom? And especially critical during this national pandemic: Which educators lack access to health insurance? To paid sick leave?

Having accurate and ongoing data that answer these key questions, can help policy makers, state departments, higher education, and child-serving agencies better understand the early childhood workforce and develop more effective solutions on how to recruit and retain a qualified early care and learning workforce to serve our children and families. If we hope to improve our early care and learning system, we must have workforce data and information to do so.

Additionally, the current workforce registry is time consuming for providers and is an administrative burden. Other states, like Nevada, have early childhood workforce registries where users create and access accounts.

Through the passage of SB 2700 SD2, the early child care workforce in Hawai'i will more easily enter their information into an Early Childhood Educator Workforce Registry, an online database to track their licensure and professional development requirements. Data collected within this registry will then provide a better picture of who makes up the early care and education workforce and where they are with regards to training, education, compensation, and experience. SB 2700 SD2 seeks to require DHS to then analyze the data and present it to legislators so that the voices of early childhood educators can be heard and answered.

When the correct structures are in place to support our educators, they are better prepared to contribute to a thriving early childhood workforce and improve the quality children receive. If we invest in early childhood educators, we are investing in our children.

Please support this measure.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dr. Terry Lock

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 4:48:54 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Laura Ramirez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please vote yes on SB 2700 because we need more childcare workers and options in Hawai'i so that we parents can work to support our families!

Mahalo,

Laura Ramirez

Kapa'a, Kaua'i



**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 5:54:27 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikki-Ann Yee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Please support SB 2700/HB 2193, that would require annual data collection on the child care workforce and make an appropriation to the Department of Human Services to invest in updating the Early Childhood Registry. Hawai'i lacks basic information on who is caring for our keiki. We rely on national data but it does not capture our local context. If we hope to improve our early care and learning system, we must have the data and information to do so. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify!**

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 9:29:58 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noreen Dougherty	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senators:

As an educator in Hawaii for over 40 years in public school, private preschools, state licensed daycares, Chaminade University, and tutoring all ages; I understand the need for quality programs for our keiki, well trained personnel, and higher pay.

Also, as an educator and practitioner of Edu-Kinesthetics licensed by the Educational Kinesiology Foundation, I have had over 400 hours of courses many of which were human development, early childhood development from conception to adult, and the physiological basis of learning. This is not ideological. It is science and basic human development.

I can unequivocally state that a child's early years are the very most important. We need to support the keiki. I know the caregivers and teachers need training because I am a teacher trainer and have trained college students on Maui, Kauai, Hilo, and Kona.

I know the salary is not sufficient enough to encourage students to strive for a career in early childhood education while our need increases.

I know the options and choices that parents and families have, the inaccessibility of programs for families living in rural locations, and the detrimental effects of the children's needs not being met that affect our young people for a lifetime. No job in the state of Hawaii is more important than the early childhood education of our keiki.

I strongly encourage you to make a difference and Pass this bill SB2700 SD2.

Being a resident of Kauai, I am unable to testify in person but you may contact me concerning educational issues.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Noreen Dougherty

Kapaa, Hawaii

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 11:42:22 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melissa Danielle Haile	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 10:05:48 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Liza Ryan Gill	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB2700 SD2. Currently, Hawai'i has only 20,000 childcare spots for the 60,000 keiki that need them.

As a parent of a young child I have personally experienced the lack of childcare. When our daughter was 6 months old we tried to find her a spot in a center. Most were completely full and others had very long wait lists. We put her on one wait list and only received a spot after 6months of additional waiting.

This scarcity of childcare is largely due to the very low pay that childcare professionals receive and the razor thin margins that facilities operate on. It just doesn't pay to open or run a center and even those passionate about childcare cannot afford to stay in the field. Despite these tiny profit margins many families are unable to pay more for care they receive.

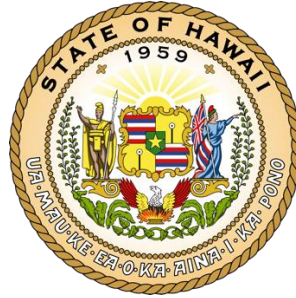
This is a CRITICAL situation. As Hawai'i attempted to rebound from the pandemic many women and families have still not been able to return to their jobs because they can't find reliable, accessible and affordable childcare. SB2700 is a step in the right direction. It would give the state some insight into this hardhit workforce and what should be done to assure that families have the support that they need to contribute to our state economy.

I kindly request the committee to pass this measure and put our keiki first.

Mahalo nunui,

Liza Ryan Gill

Round Top Drive, Honolulu



‘O kēia ‘ōlelo hō’ike no ke  
**Komikina Kūlana Olakino o Nā Wāhine**

Testimony on behalf of the  
**Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of Women**

In Support of S.B. 2700, SD2

Dear Chair Tamane, Vice Tam, and Honorable Members,

The Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of Women supports S.B. 2700, SD2, which 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. The lack of affordable childcare in Hawai‘i forces women to abandon the workplace, and results in poorer economic outcomes for women and families. We need a childhood workforce registry system to make central planning possible to end Hawai‘i’s childcare crisis, which is good for society as a whole.

Accordingly, the Commission asks that the Committee pass S.B. 2700, SD2.

Sincerely,  
Khara Jabola-Carolus, J.D.  
Executive Director

**SB-2700-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 2:16:17 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/17/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ashley Galacgac	AF3IRM Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Tam, and Honorable Members,

Please support SB 2700 SD 2, which would require annual data collection on the child care workforce and make an appropriation to the Department of Human Services to invest in updating the Early Childhood Registry. The child care workforce is significantly made up of women so this data collection can capture the extent to which women are fulfilling the need. Investment into our child care system will ultimately help relieve the burden of caregiving that has fallen on the shoulders of women and may be one step closer to affordable quality child care for all families in Hawai'i. Hawai'i lacks basic information on who is caring for our keiki. Relying on national data but it does not capture our local context.

The current system is time-consuming and add more administrative burden on already overextended providers. If we hope to improve our early care and learning system, we must have the data and information to do so. Please pass this measure.