

JAN 19 2024

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD CARE.

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

1           SECTION 1. (a) There is established within the judiciary  
2 a three-year pilot program to provide free child care services  
3 to minor children of parties and witnesses who are attending  
4 court hearings in the first circuit; provided that the free  
5 child care services shall only be offered in an area designated  
6 by the judiciary.

7           (b) The judiciary shall submit a report of its findings  
8 and recommendations regarding the pilot program, including any  
9 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than forty  
10 days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2025,  
11 2026, and 2027.

12           SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
13 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
14 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
15 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
16 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
17 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by



1 \$                    or                    per cent. This current declaration takes  
2 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
3 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
4 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
5 ceiling are that:

- 6            (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to  
7                    serve the public interest; and
- 8            (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs  
9                    addressed by this Act.

10            SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000 or so much  
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the  
13 judiciary to establish a pilot program to provide free child  
14 care services to minor children of parties and witnesses who are  
15 attending court hearings in the first circuit.

16            The sum appropriated shall be expended by the judiciary for  
17 the purposes of this Act; provided that this appropriation shall  
18 not lapse at the end of fiscal year 2024-2025; provided further  
19 that all moneys that are unencumbered as of June 30, 2027, shall  
20 lapse as of that date.



# S.B. NO. 2523

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Karl Nherd*



# S.B. NO. 2523

**Report Title:**

Judiciary; Pilot Program; Child Care; Witnesses; Parties; First Circuit; Report to the Legislature; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Judiciary to establish a three-year pilot program to provide free child care services to minor children of parties and witnesses who are attending court hearings in the first circuit. Requires the Judiciary to submit reports to the Legislature. 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.*

