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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING.

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

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4           "§302L-       Imagination library of Hawaii program;  
5 established. (a) The office shall establish an imagination  
6 library of Hawaii program to provide one free book each month to  
7 eligible children.

8           (b) The office shall contract with a nonprofit  
9 organization to implement the program established pursuant to  
10 this section. In implementing the imagination library of Hawaii  
11 program, the nonprofit organization shall:

12           (1) Provide an amount of at least fifty per cent of the  
13           funds required to carry out the program;

14           (2) Promote the statewide development of local  
15           book-gifting programs;

16           (3) Provide outreach to local communities about developing  
17           local book-gifting programs in those communities;



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1        (4) Recruit community partners to assist in the  
2        implementation and administration of local  
3        book-gifting programs;

4        (5) Advance and strengthen local book-gifting programs to  
5        increase enrollment in the program;

6        (6) Develop community engagement related to local book-  
7        gifting programs; and

8        (7) Enter into a contract with a national nonprofit  
9        foundation to provide age-appropriate, high quality  
10       books each month to eligible children at no cost.

11       (c) The office may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91  
12       necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

13       (d) As used in this section:

14       "Eligible children" means children from birth through five  
15       years of age who reside in the State.

16       "National nonprofit foundation" means a national nonprofit  
17       foundation that exists for the purpose of working with local  
18       entities to identify and provide to eligible children age-  
19       appropriate, high quality books each month to eligible children  
20       at no cost to families."



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1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
 3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and  
 4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
 5 year 2026-2027 for the implementation of the imagination library  
 6 of Hawaii program established by section 302L- , Hawaii  
 7 Revised Statutes.

8 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the executive  
 9 office on early learning for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

12

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 13 2025



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**Report Title:**

Executive Office on Early Learning; Imagination Library of Hawaii Program; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Executive Office on Early Learning to establish an Imagination Library of Hawaii Program to provide one free book each month to children from birth through five years of age who reside in the State. 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.*

