

ACT 281

S.B. NO. 486

A Bill for an Act Relating to Children and Youth.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many children are on their own in the mornings and afternoons before and after the school bell rings. Nationally, nearly two-thirds of school-age children are in homes with both parents working, yet very few communities have a comprehensive system of before and after-school care for children. While Hawaii is fortunate to have the A+ program for students in grades K-6, older children also need adult supervision. When older children are unsupervised in the morning, afternoon, evening, weekend, and holiday hours, statistics clearly show that rates of juvenile crime, drug use, and experimentation with tobacco, alcohol, and sex increase.

The legislature further finds that there is widespread agreement about the importance of establishing safe, structured learning environments for children and youth during non-school hours.

The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for non-school hour programs for children and youth.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$800,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for non-school hour programs for kindergarten through twelfth grades for the department of education.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of education for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$800,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for the office of youth services for non-school hour programs for children and youth enrolled in school:¹

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

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for non-school hour programs for children and youth enrolled in school.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of parks and recreation of each county, subject to the following allocation percentages, which are based on the number of children eighteen years of age or younger residing in each county; provided that no funds shall be disbursed unless each county provides matching funds on a dollar for dollar basis:

- (1) Seventy-one per cent, city and county of Honolulu;
- (2) Thirteen per cent, county of Hawaii;
- (3) Eleven per cent, county of Maui; and
- (4) Five per cent, county of Kauai.

SECTION 5. Moneys allocated for the purposes of this Act shall not reduce existing funding for non-school hour programs and shall be awarded by the expending agencies only to non-school hour programs that demonstrate a commitment to partnering with the public and private sectors and involve youth as active participants in all phases of program planning, implementation, and evaluation. All programs that receive those moneys shall meet each quarter with their community partners for the purposes of program evaluation and improvement.

SECTION 6. The office of youth services, the department of education, and the counties' parks and recreation departments shall convene annually to share information on the best practices and outcomes. The office of youth services shall submit to the legislature an annual report on the programs funded under this Act no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session, beginning with the regular session of 2007.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

(Approved July 6, 2006.)

Note

1. Should be a period.