## A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to propose an 2 amendment to article X, section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for 3 4 private early childhood education programs to help the State 5 meet its goal of providing an early learning system for the 6 children of Hawaii. 7 SECTION 2. Article X, section 1, of the Constitution of 8 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows: 9 "PUBLIC EDUCATION 10 Section 1. The State shall provide for the establishment, 11 support and control of a statewide system of public schools free 12 from sectarian control, a state university, public libraries and 13 such other educational institutions as may be deemed desirable, 14 including physical facilities therefor. There shall be no 15 discrimination in public educational institutions because of 16 race, religion, sex or ancestry; nor shall public funds be 17 appropriated for the support or benefit of any sectarian or HB853 HD1 HMS 2013-2078 

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nonsectarian private educational institution, except that public 1 2 funds may be appropriated for the support or benefit of private early childhood education programs as provided by law, and that 3 proceeds of special purpose revenue bonds authorized or issued 4 5 under section 12 of Article VII may be appropriated to finance or assist: 6 7 Not-for-profit corporations that provide early 1. 8 childhood education and care facilities serving the general 9 public; and 10 Not-for-profit private nonsectarian and sectarian 2. 11 elementary schools, secondary schools, colleges and 12 universities." 13 SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall 14 be as follows: 15 "Shall the appropriation of public funds be permitted for 16 the support or benefit of private early childhood education 17 programs, as provided by law?" 18 SECTION 4. New constitutional material is underscored. 19 SECTION 5. This amendment shall take effect upon 20 compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of 21 the State of Hawaii.

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### Report Title:

Early Childhood Education; Public Funds; Constitutional Amendment

### Description:

Proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs, as provided by law. (HB853 HD1)

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