
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO EXAMINE THE
APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE PRESCHOOL OPEN DOORS PROGRAM TO
ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL WHO QUALIFY.

1 WHEREAS, preschool is a critical time for Hawaii's keiki
2 because preschool prepares children for kindergarten, teaches
3 social skills, and allows children to explore and discover their
4 world while learning through hands-on play experiences; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Preschool Open Doors Program is Hawaii's
7 school readiness program that allows approximately 1,300
8 children to attend licensed preschools to prepare them for
9 kindergarten entry; and
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11 WHEREAS, the Preschool Open Doors Program is a child care
12 subsidy program through the Department of Human Services that
13 provides statewide services to eligible low- and moderate-income
14 families sending their children to licensed preschools prior to
15 kindergarten; and
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17 WHEREAS, the goal of the Preschool Open Doors Program is to
18 promote school readiness and help children develop a lifelong
19 love for learning; and
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21 WHEREAS, it is important that all of Hawaii's families have
22 access to the Preschool Open Doors Program application process;
23 and
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25 WHEREAS, currently, the application process for the
26 Preschool Open Doors Program is administered by People Attentive
27 to Children (PATCH), which does not allow applications to be
28 submitted electronically; and
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30 WHEREAS, some families are unable to apply for the
31 Preschool Open Doors Program because they cannot afford a mail-



1 in application, while other families may lack access to the
2 Internet; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2017, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Human
7 Services is urged to examine the application process for the
8 Preschool Open Doors Program to ensure accessibility for all who
9 qualify; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
12 Services is encouraged to consider a paperless or other cost-
13 free application process that is accessible to all who qualify;
14 and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
17 Services is requested to provide information regarding the cost
18 of transitioning to a paperless or cost-free application
19 process; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
22 Services is requested to submit its findings and
23 recommendations, including the cost of a paperless or cost-free
24 application process, to the Legislature no later than 20 days
25 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2018; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
29 Services, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning,
30 and the Executive Director of People Attentive to Children.

