
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE SPOUSE AND CHILD ABUSE SPECIAL FUND.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Congress passed the
2 Family First Prevention Services Act (Family First) as part of
3 the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, Public Law 115-123. Family
4 First changes the way states may spend and claim funds pursuant
5 to title IV-E of the Social Security Act (title IV-E funds).
6 Previously, title IV-E funds could only be used for foster care
7 maintenance, adoption assistance, kinship guardianship
8 assistance, and related training and administrative expenses.
9 Family First provides reimbursement of title IV-E funds for
10 child abuse and prevention services. Hawaii will soon submit
11 its Family First Hawaii Plan for federal review, and upon
12 approval, Hawaii will have the option to use state and title
13 IV-E funds for prevention services that would allow children who
14 have been abused or neglected or are at risk of being abused or
15 neglected to remain with their parents or relatives.

16 The legislature further finds that section 346-7.5, Hawaii
17 Revised Statutes, currently allows no more than \$3,000,000 in



1 unencumbered and unexpected moneys to be retained in the spouse
2 and child abuse special fund. To maximize Hawaii's ability to
3 draw additional federal fund reimbursement available through
4 Family First, the department needs a significant source of
5 sustainable non-federal revenue to support spouse and child
6 abuse and neglect prevention and intervention services,
7 including personnel costs. With the projected loss of state
8 revenue due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic
9 and the resulting economic crisis, an increase in the amount the
10 spouse and child abuse special fund is allowed to retain is
11 necessary to meet the projected decrease in general fund
12 appropriations.

13 The legislature also finds that the department of human
14 services is seeking to retain unencumbered and unexpended moneys
15 in the spouse and child abuse special fund of up to \$5,000,000,
16 including Family First federal reimbursements and title IV-E
17 federal reimbursements received in the fiscal year following the
18 year in which the funds were expended, to secure a stable source
19 of funding for spouse abuse, child abuse and neglect prevention,
20 intervention, and other services.



1 The purpose of this Act is to allow the spouse and child
2 abuse special fund to retain unencumbered and unexpended moneys
3 of up to \$5,000,000.

4 SECTION 2. Section 346-7.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

6 "(e) All unencumbered and unexpended moneys in excess of
7 [~~\$3,000,000~~] \$5,000,000 in the spouse and child abuse special
8 fund shall lapse to the credit of the general fund. Upon
9 dissolution of the spouse and child abuse special fund, any
10 unencumbered moneys in the fund shall lapse to the general
11 fund."

12 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Spouse and Child Abuse Special Fund

Description:

Amends the spouse and child abuse special fund to allow up to \$5,000,000 of federal reimbursements received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, in the year following the fiscal year in which Family First Prevention Services funds and the title IV-E funds were expended to be deposited and retained. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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