
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EARLY EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a strong child care
2 and early education workforce is necessary to support Hawaii's
3 children, working families, and communities. The legislature
4 further finds that the demand for quality child care and early
5 education far exceeds the number of qualified child care and
6 early education professionals currently available in the State.
7 The legislature also finds that disruptions to the child care
8 and early education system caused by the ongoing coronavirus
9 disease 2019 pandemic have created more challenges to expand
10 access to quality, affordable early child care and education
11 programs.

12 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

13 (1) Establish a one-year child care worker subsidy pilot
14 program to retain the existing early child care
15 workforce;



1 (2) Appropriate moneys for the child care worker subsidy
2 pilot program to be expended by the department of
3 human services; and

4 (3) Appropriate moneys to be deposited into the early
5 learning special fund and expended by the executive
6 office on early learning for the Hawaii early
7 childhood educator stipend program.

8 SECTION 2. (a) The department of human services shall
9 establish and implement a one-year child care worker subsidy
10 pilot program.

11 (b) The department of human services shall develop
12 standards and qualifications for participation in the pilot
13 program by child care workers, which at a minimum shall require
14 that the:

15 (1) Pilot program serve five per cent of the child care
16 workers in the State;

17 (2) Child care workers not be employed by the department
18 of education, executive office on early learning, or
19 any public charter schools;

20 (3) Child care workers include those working in rural
21 areas and child care deserts; and



1 (4) Child care workers who apply for participation in the
2 pilot program be selected by lottery.

3 (c) The department of human services shall establish best
4 practices to bring all child care workers' pay to, at a minimum,
5 \$17.00 per hour.

6 (d) The department of human services shall submit an
7 interim report on the pilot program, including any proposed
8 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
9 to the convening of the regular session of 2023, and a final
10 report no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the
11 regular session of 2024.

12 (e) For the purpose of this section, "child care desert"
13 means any geographic area where child care supply meets less
14 than one-third of the potential demand.

15 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
17 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
18 the child care worker subsidy pilot program.

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



1 SECTION 4. 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 2022-2023 to be
4 deposited into the early learning special fund established
5 pursuant to section 302L-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the executive
7 office on early learning; provided that the executive office on
8 early learning shall use the moneys appropriated for the Hawaii
9 early childhood educator stipend program established pursuant to
10 section 302L-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

11 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050;
12 provided that sections 3 and 4 of this Act shall take effect on
13 July 1, 2022; provided further that section 2 of this Act shall
14 be repealed on July 1, 2023.



Report Title:

Child Care and Early Education Workforce; Subsidy; Pilot Program; Special Fund; Appropriations

Description:

Establishes a 1-year child care worker subsidy pilot program to assist in retaining the existing child care workforce. Appropriates moneys for the pilot program to be expended by the Department of Human Services. Appropriates moneys to be deposited into the early learning special fund and expended by the Executive Office on Early Learning for the Hawaii early childhood educator stipend program. Repeals the pilot program on 7/1/2023. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

