
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD WELFARE.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to:
- 2 (1) Require the department of human services to collect
- 3 and analyze data to determine the impact of expanding
- 4 post-permanency services to families receiving
- 5 benefits from the adoption assistance program and
- 6 report its findings and recommendation to the
- 7 legislature before the convening of the regular
- 8 session of 2025; and
- 9 (2) Appropriate funds to the department of human services
- 10 for the procurement of contracted services to provide
- 11 additional support, resources, and monitoring of
- 12 families receiving benefits from the State's adoption
- 13 assistance program for the purposes of assisting with
- 14 family strengthening and the maintenance of a safe
- 15 home environment for adopted children.
- 16 SECTION 2. The department of human services shall collect
- 17 and analyze data to determine the impact of expanding



1 post-permanency services to families receiving benefits from the
2 adoption assistance program and shall submit a report of its
3 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
4 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
5 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
9 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
10 year 2024-2025 for the procurement of contracted services to
11 provide additional support, resources, and monitoring of
12 families receiving benefits from the State's adoption assistance
13 program for the purposes of assisting with family strengthening
14 and the maintenance of a safe home environment for adopted
15 children, to be expended as follows:

16 (1) \$ for the development and maintenance of
17 necessary information technology systems, including
18 the establishment of full time equivalent
19 (FTE) positions;

20 (2) \$ to increase compensation to fill vacancies
21 and retain employees in existing child welfare



1 services branch investigator, case manager, and social
2 worker positions; provided that any increase in
3 compensation shall be subject to collective bargaining
4 with the objective of expeditiously filling all
5 vacancies;

6 (3) \$ for the department of human services to
7 contract with a third-party for enhanced permanency
8 support services, including additional training for
9 resource caregivers, wellness visits within a year of
10 adoption or guardianship of children formerly in
11 foster care, respite care, and enhanced supportive
12 services to assist with family strengthening and
13 maintenance of a safe home environment for adopted
14 children; and

15 (4) \$ for the establishment of one full time
16 equivalent (1.0 FTE) planner or project specialist
17 position to administer and monitor additional service
18 contracts and assist with additional service
19 coordination, data collection, and analysis of the new
20 program.



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

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on December 31,
4 2050; provided that section 3 of this Act shall take effect on
5 July 1, 2023.



S.B. NO. 398
S.D. 1
H.D. 1

Report Title:

Department of Human Services; Adoption; Adoption Assistance Program; Post-Permanency Services; Report; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Human Services to collect and analyze data to determine the impact of expanding post-permanency services to families receiving benefits from the adoption assistance program and report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds. Effective 12/31/2050. (HD1)

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2023-2546 SB398 HD1 HMSO

