



GOV. MSG. NO. 1254

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

July 1, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 1, 2024, the following bill was signed into law:

SB3116 SD2 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO THE PRESCHOOL OPEN
DOORS PROGRAM.
ACT 153

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

on _____

THE SENATE
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO.

3116
S.D. 2
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PRESCHOOL OPEN DOORS PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the preschool open
2 doors program serves certain three- and four-year old children
3 with priority extended to certain categories of children. There
4 is currently no priority application period established for each
5 state fiscal year. A priority application period would ensure
6 that the preschool open doors program maximizes the funding
7 appropriated to the program to serve the greatest number of
8 three- and four-year-old children in a more timely fashion.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to explicitly
10 establish that the priority of selection for preschool open
11 doors program participation applies only during the priority
12 application period between February 1 and the start of each
13 state fiscal year.

14 SECTION 2. Section 346-181, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

16 "(b) Subject to the availability of funds, the program
17 shall serve three- and four-year-old children who are in the two
18 years prior to kindergarten entry pursuant to section 302A-411,



1 with priority extended in the following order [~~to~~] during a
2 priority application period established for each upcoming state
3 fiscal year:

4 (1) Children who are not eligible to attend public school
5 kindergarten in the calendar year in which they turn
6 five years of age because their birth date occurs
7 after the kindergarten eligibility date pursuant to
8 section 302A-411;

9 (2) Underserved or at-risk four-year-old children who were
10 previously served as [~~a~~] three-year-old [~~child, as~~
11 ~~defined by rules adopted by the department,~~] children;

12 (3) Four-year-old children who were previously served as
13 [~~a~~] three-year-old [~~child,~~] children;

14 (4) Four-year-old children;

15 (5) Underserved or at-risk three-year-old children[~~, as~~
16 ~~defined by rules adopted by the department~~]; and

17 (6) Three-year-old children[~~,~~];

18 provided that the department shall adopt rules, pursuant to
19 chapter 91, to determine a child's underserved or at-risk
20 status, if not duplicative of the rules already adopted under
21 chapter 17-799, Hawaii Administrative Rules; and applications



1 received after the end of the priority application period and
2 through January 31 of each year shall be processed on a first-
3 come, first-served basis for the remainder of the state fiscal
4 year."

5 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



S.B. NO. 3116
S.D. 2
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this **1st** day of **July**, 2024

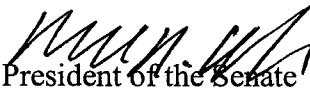
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

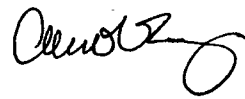
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 3116, SD 2, HD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives