
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ADOPTION ASSISTANCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that all children in
2 foster care have experienced trauma, either from abuse or
3 neglect by their families or from the removal process. This
4 trauma often manifests in behaviors that are difficult for
5 caregivers to manage. Even after a child has been placed in
6 permanent custody through adoption or guardianship, there is
7 still a need to provide ongoing support to their caregivers.

8 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to provide
9 additional support and resources for families receiving benefits
10 through the State's adoption assistance and permanency
11 assistance programs.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
15 the procurement of contracted services to provide additional
16 support and resources for families receiving benefits through
17 the State's adoption assistance program and permanency



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1 assistance program to assist with family strengthening and the
2 maintenance of a safe home environment for adopted children.

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

5 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
6 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
7 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
8 appropriations contained in H.B. No. , will cause the state
9 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be
10 exceeded by \$ or per cent. In addition, the
11 appropriation contained in this Act will cause the general fund
12 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further
13 exceeded by \$ or per cent. The combined total
14 amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these
15 two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling
16 for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
17 \$ or per cent. The reasons for exceeding the
18 general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

- 19 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
20 serve the public interest; and



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1 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
2 addressed by this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

4

INTRODUCED BY: *Lisa Marten*

JAN 24 2024



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Report Title:

Adoption Assistance; Permanency Assistance; Appropriation;
Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Appropriates funds to provide additional support and resources to families receiving benefits through the State's adoption assistance and permanency assistance programs.

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