
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that family-child
2 interaction learning programs provide children from birth to age
3 five with engaging, literacy-rich early learning environments
4 that foster social and emotional development and support school
5 readiness. Family-child interaction learning programs include
6 two main components: high-quality early childhood learning and
7 parent education, which equips parents and caregivers with the
8 knowledge and skills to support their children's education and
9 healthy family dynamics. Additionally, family-child interaction
10 learning programs employ multi-generational, culturally
11 responsive approaches and typically work with families who
12 choose to have their children cared for by a parent,
13 grandparent, or other family caregiver, rather than utilizing
14 center-based child care options.

15 The legislature further finds that family-child interaction
16 learning programs are uniquely positioned to improve early
17 detection of developmental delays, expand access to infant and



1 early childhood mental health services, and connect families
2 with a wide variety of social services.

3 The purpose of this Act is to expand the availability of
4 family-child interaction learning programs in the State by
5 appropriating funds to the executive office on early learning to
6 contract with third-party providers of family-child interaction
7 learning programs.

8 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
11 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
12 year 2026-2027 for the executive office on early learning to
13 contract with third-party providers of family-child interaction
14 learning programs, which include but are not limited to the
15 delivery of infant and early childhood mental health
16 consultations and related services.

17 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the executive
18 office on early learning for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.



H.B. NO. 249

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INTRODUCED BY:

Lisa M. Minter

JAN 16 2025



H.B. NO. 249

Report Title:

Family-child Interaction Learning Programs; Executive Office on Early Learning; Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Executive Office on Early Learning to contract with third-party providers of family-child interaction learning programs.

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