
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the lack of
2 disability-compatible equipment in state parks and playgrounds
3 and department of education playgrounds is having a negative
4 impact on physically disabled youth in the State. This causes
5 disparate utilization of recreational facilities as well as
6 preventing opportunities for socialization. It is important to
7 comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Disabled
8 community members have rights and it is important that these
9 rights be recognized.

10 The purpose of this Act is to enhance the inclusion of
11 physically disabled youth in important socialization activities
12 by:

13 (1) By June 30, 2027, requiring all playgrounds located in
14 state parks and on public school grounds to have a
15 minimal set of special needs recreational playground
16 equipment, including a wheelchair accessible swing
17 set; and



1 "Public school" has the same meaning as in section
2 302A-101.

3 "Special needs recreational playground equipment" means
4 recreational playground equipment that can be used by physically
5 disabled youth.

6 "Youth" means individuals under the age of eighteen.

7 § -3 **Special needs recreational playground equipment**
8 **installation; minimum requirements.** (a) No later than June 30,
9 2027, every playground located in a state park or on public
10 school grounds shall include special needs recreational
11 playground equipment as part of the playground apparatuses. The
12 special needs recreational playground equipment shall include at
13 a minimum a wheelchair accessible swing set.

14 (b) All special needs recreational playground equipment
15 installed pursuant to this section shall comply with the
16 standards set forth in the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act
17 Standards for Accessible Design, or any successor or similar
18 guidelines or standards governing accessibility standards for
19 public facilities.

20 § -4 **Special needs recreational playground equipment**
21 **special fund.** (a) There is established a special needs



1 recreational playground equipment special fund to be
2 administered by the department, which shall consist of moneys
3 appropriated to the fund by the legislature.

4 (b) Moneys from the special needs recreational playground
5 equipment special fund shall be used by the State for the
6 acquisition, installation, and maintenance of special needs
7 recreational playground equipment.

8 (c) All unobligated, unencumbered, or unexpended funds
9 remaining in the fund in excess of \$ at the close of
10 each fiscal year shall lapse to the general fund.

11 § -5 **Compliance with federal law.** All special needs
12 recreational playground equipment shall comply with all
13 applicable federal and state laws."

14 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
17 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
18 year 2026-2027 to be deposited into the special needs
19 recreational playground equipment special fund established
20 pursuant to section -4, Hawaii Revised Statutes.



1 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the special needs
2 recreational playground equipment special fund the sum of
3 \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
4 year 2025-2026 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be
5 necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 to purchase and install
6 special needs recreational playground equipment in state parks.

7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
8 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the special needs
10 recreational playground equipment special fund the sum of
11 \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
12 year 2025-2026 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be
13 necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 to purchase and install
14 special needs recreational playground equipment on department of
15 education public school grounds.

16 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
17 of education for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.



H.B. NO. 867

1

INTRODUCED BY:

Seeg Anant

JAN 21 2025



H.B. NO. 867

Report Title:

Special Needs Recreational Playground Equipment; State Parks;
Public School Playgrounds; Special Fund; Appropriation

Description:

Requires all playgrounds located in state parks and on public school grounds to include special needs recreational playground equipment as part of the recreational apparatuses by 6/30/2027, including at a minimum a wheelchair accessible swing set. Establishes the Special Needs Recreational Playground Equipment Special Fund. Appropriates funds.

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

