

JAN 28 2026

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 public charter
2 schools dedicated solely to prekindergarten programs are
3 integral to increase access to early learning and to meet the
4 mandates of Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020 (Act 46).
5 Act 46 requires the department of human services and the
6 executive office on learning access to ensure access to early
7 learning through preschool programs for at least fifty per cent
8 of all appropriately aged, unserved children by 2027, and one
9 hundred per cent of those children by 2032.
10 Prekindergarten-only public charter schools meet the same
11 rigorous requirements as public prekindergarten schools with the
12 added benefit of being able to operate on a full-day schedule
13 that better serves the needs of working families. The State's
14 prekindergarten-only public charter schools are essential to a
15 high-quality, mixed-delivery education system, but they are
16 currently operating at a deficit.



S.B. NO. 3189

1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to increase funding
2 for prekindergarten-only public charter schools by appropriating
3 moneys to the state public charter school commission.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for
7 prekindergarten-only public charter schools.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the state public
9 charter school commission for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Carol Fukunaga*

S.B. NO. 3189

Report Title:

Prekindergarten-only Public Charter Schools; SPCSC; Executive Office on Early Learning; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to the State Public Charter School Commission for prekindergarten-only public charter schools.

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