

A Bill for an Act Relating to Vision and Hearing Screening.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to authorize the department of health to establish a statewide school health vision and hearing screening program for all school children. It is in the interest of the State to preserve and care for the health of Hawaii's children through regular and careful attention to the special senses through which learning takes place.

SECTION 2. Part IX of Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

"PART IX. VISION AND HEARING SCREENING AND EDUCATION

§321-101 Vision and hearing screening program. (a) The department of health shall conduct, as it deems advisable, a screening program to detect vision and hearing deficiencies in school children and recommend to their parents or guardians the need for further evaluation of children who are found to have vision or hearing deficiencies, or both.

(b) The departments of health and education, in cooperation with each other, may conduct classes and lectures in sight and hearing conservation and prevention of blindness and hearing loss for teachers and public health nurses and others engaged in like work. The departments may also cooperate with public and private organizations and societies in an effort to educate the public in the importance of sight and hearing conservation."

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored.*

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

(Approved June 18, 1981.)

*The text has been edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5, authorizing omission of the brackets, bracketed material, and underscoring.