ACT 312

H.B. NO. 2843

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

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

SECTION 1. Section 321-101, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§321-101 [Vision and hearing screening program.] <u>Systematic hear-</u> ing and vision 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.] There is established a systematic hearing and vision program for children to be conducted by the department of health. The purpose of the program shall be to:

- (1) Detect and identify hearing and vision deficiencies in school children; and
- (2) Recommend to their parents or guardians the need for appropriate evaluation of children who have hearing or vision deficiencies, or both, and follow-up and track completed evaluations, including diagnostic and treatment information.

(b) Within available resources, the program shall include:

- (1) Consultation with students, parents, and health and education personnel about treatment and rehabilitation of hearing and vision deficiencies; and
- (2) Education of students, health and education personnel, and the general public about preserving and caring for hearing and vision and about preventing hearing and vision deficiencies.

[(b)] (c) The departments of health and education, in cooperation with each other, may conduct classes and lectures in [sight and] hearing and vision conservation and prevention of [blindness and] hearing loss and blindness for teachers [and], public health nurses, and others engaged in [like] similar work. The departments [may] shall also cooperate with public and private organizations and societies [in an effort] to educate the public in the importance of [sight and] hearing¹ and vision conservation."

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SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 30, 1992.)

Note

1. Should not be underscored.