
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING TASK FORCE TO REVIEW EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING PILOT PROJECTS, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING SYSTEM IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, neuroscience research demonstrates that a child's
2 early years are the most crucial in the child's cognitive,
3 social, emotional, and physical development; and
4

5 WHEREAS, early screening, identification, and intervention
6 for physical impairments, developmental delays, and psychosocial
7 problems can dramatically improve children's outcomes and have a
8 critical influence on school success and family functioning; and
9

10 WHEREAS, early screening, identification, and intervention
11 result in significant cost savings; and
12

13 WHEREAS, potential savings realized when a child does not
14 require special education programs can be as much as \$14,000 per
15 child per school year; and
16

17 WHEREAS, it is critical to provide each child with ongoing
18 access to quality primary health care that includes screening
19 for developmental delays, to ensure that the effects of these
20 delays are mitigated as soon as possible; and
21

22 WHEREAS, many of Hawaii's children do not have access to
23 quality primary health care and many parents are unaware of or
24 choose not to use available primary health care services;
25 therefore, many of Hawaii's children do not receive proper
26 screening, identification, evaluation, or referrals for
27 correction or treatment; and
28



1 WHEREAS, Aloha United Way has implemented two pilot
2 projects on Oahu that provide early childhood developmental
3 screening; and
4

5 WHEREAS, preliminary findings from the projects show that
6 twenty-one percent of the children screened have a problem that
7 requires follow-up services; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the projects indicate a need for a comprehensive
10 outreach component to ensure families are aware of the need for
11 screening; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the projects also indicate that a case management
14 component is important so that children who require follow-up
15 services can receive treatment; and
16

17 WHEREAS, early screening services are necessary to
18 identify, mitigate, and treat developmental disabilities as
19 early as possible, and an integrated, universal developmental
20 screening system would clearly benefit the children of this
21 State; now, therefore,
22

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
25 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Health is
26 requested to convene a Developmental Screening Task Force to
27 review Aloha United Way's Early Childhood Developmental
28 Screening pilot projects and the University of Hawai'i at Manoa
29 Center on Disability Studies' evaluation of those Early
30 Childhood Developmental Screening pilot projects; and
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
33 requested to report, based on the Task Force's review, its
34 findings and recommendations for the development of an
35 integrated, universal early childhood developmental screening
36 system in Hawaii; and
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health submit
39 its report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to
40 the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and
41

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
43 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,



H.C.R. NO. 211

1 Chairperson of the Center on Disability Studies at the
2 University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and President of Aloha United
3 Way.

4
5
6

OFFERED BY: _____

DM
John M. Hironaka

MAR 16 2011

