

JAN 22 2016

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PUBLIC PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM.

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

1           SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds  
2 to the executive office on early learning for the early learning  
3 public prekindergarten program and make the program available to  
4 all eligible children by the 2020-2021 school year.

5           SECTION 2. Section 302L-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

7           "(b) The program shall serve children in the year prior to  
8 the year of kindergarten eligibility, with priority extended to  
9 underserved or at-risk children, as defined in section  
10 302L-1[-]; provided that no later than the 2020-2021 school  
11 year, the program shall be available to all children in the year  
12 prior to the year of kindergarten eligibility. The department  
13 of education may grant geographic exceptions for children to  
14 attend prekindergarten outside their assigned service area, as  
15 the department of education deems appropriate; provided that the  
16 department of education shall grant a request for geographic  
17 exception to attend a prekindergarten in another service area if



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1 the request is based on the employment location of the parent or  
2 guardian of the student."

3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
6 the early learning public prekindergarten program.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the executive  
8 office on early learning for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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# S.B. NO. 2595

**Report Title:**

Early Learning Public Prekindergarten Program; Availability; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the executive office on early learning to make the public prekindergarten program available to all eligible children no later than the 2020-2021 school year, and appropriates funds for the program.

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