
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD WELFARE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to:

2 (1) Require the department of human services to collect
3 and analyze data to determine the impact of expanding
4 post-permanency services to families receiving
5 benefits from the adoption assistance program and
6 report its findings and recommendation to the
7 legislature before the convening of the regular
8 session of 2025; and

9 (2) Appropriate funds to the department of human services
10 for the procurement of contracted services to provide
11 additional support, resources, and monitoring of
12 families receiving benefits from the State's adoption
13 assistance program for the purposes of assisting with
14 family strengthening and the maintenance of a safe
15 home environment for adopted children.

16 SECTION 2. The department of human services shall collect
17 and analyze data to determine the impact of expanding



1 post-permanency services to families receiving benefits from the
2 adoption assistance program and shall submit a report of its
3 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
4 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
5 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
9 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
10 year 2024-2025 for the procurement of contracted services to
11 provide additional support, resources, and monitoring of
12 families receiving benefits from the State's adoption assistance
13 program for the purposes of assisting with family strengthening
14 and the maintenance of a safe home environment for adopted
15 children.

16 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
17 of human services for the purposes of this Act; provided that:

18 (1) \$ shall be expended for the development and
19 maintenance of necessary information technology
20 systems, including the establishment of full
21 time equivalent (FTE) positions;



1 (2) \$ shall be expended to increase compensation
2 to fill vacancies and retain employees in existing
3 child welfare services branch investigator, case
4 manager, and social worker positions; provided that
5 any increase in compensation shall be subject to
6 collective bargaining with the objective of
7 expeditiously filling all vacancies;

8 (3) \$ shall be expended for the department of
9 human services to contract with a third-party for
10 enhanced permanency support services, including
11 additional training for resource caregivers, wellness
12 visits within a year of adoption or guardianship of
13 children formerly in foster care, respite care, and
14 enhanced supportive services to assist with family
15 strengthening and maintenance of a safe home
16 environment for adopted children; and

17 (4) \$ shall be expended for the establishment of
18 one full time equivalent (1.0 FTE) planner or project
19 specialist position to administer and monitor
20 additional service contracts and assist with



1 additional service coordination, data collection, and
2 analysis of the new program.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on December 31,
4 2050; provided that section 3 of this Act shall take effect on
5 July 1, 2023.



Report Title:

Department of Human Services; Foster Care; Adoption; Adoption Assistance Program; Review; Investigation; Post-Permanency Services; Report; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Human Services to collect and analyze data to determine the impact of expanding post-permanency services to families receiving benefits from the adoption assistance program and report to the Legislature before the 2025 Regular Session. Appropriates funds. Effective 12/31/2050.
(SD1)

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