

## Legislative Priorities 2023: End-of-Session Summary

### Cross-Category

#### HIGHEST PRIORITIES

<b>SB397</b> <i>(measure died but funds included in budget)</i>	<p><b>Medicaid Professional Fees Increase:</b> Bringing payments for professionals billing under Medicaid up to 100% of the Medicare reimbursement.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> \$300M to “add funds for health care payments” included in budget HB300 for each of FY24 and FY25.</p>
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### Healthy and Welcomed Births

#### HIGHEST PRIORITIES

<b>SB1</b>	<p><b>Abortion provider and access protections:</b> Extension of protections for health care professionals who are providing reproductive health care; housekeeping and strengthening of abortion statutes re: telemedicine, definitions, etc.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> Act 2 signed into law by Governor on 3/22/23, including elements from SB1 and HB1441/SB890.</p>
<b>HB1343</b>	<p><b>Abortion Access Coordinator:</b> Creation and funding for an Abortion [Reproductive Health] Access Coordinator Office within Department of Human Services.</p>

#### SECONDARY PRIORITIES

<b>HB1179, 1180 SB892, 893</b>	<p><b>Reproductive Health Equity Act (RHEA):</b> Requires health insurance coverage for various sexual and reproductive health care services, with or without cost sharing.</p>
<b>SCR18</b>	<p><b>RHEA Assessment (Resolution):</b> Requests the auditor to conduct social and financial assessment of proposed mandatory health insurance coverage for sexual and reproductive health care services.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> Adopted by the House and the Senate. Need to encourage Legislative leadership to ask auditor to prioritize this assessment.</p>
<b>HCR7</b>	<p><b>Lactation Support Provider Expansion (Resolution):</b> Requests that Department of Human Services Med-QUEST Division and Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs expand the types of qualified providers allowed to provide lactation consultant services for Medicaid recipients.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> Adopted by the House and the Senate.</p>
<b>HB899</b>	<p><b>FASD Awareness Month:</b> Recognizes September as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Month to promote public awareness of the risks of alcohol consumption during pregnancy.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> Act 12 signed into law by Governor on 4/19/23.</p>
<b>SB318</b>	<p><b>FASD Pilot Program:</b> Requires Department of Health to establish and administer 3-year pilot program on prevention, screening, assessment, and intervention of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).</p> <p><b>Update:</b> Passed with \$485,000 allocated.</p>

## Safe, Secure and Nurturing Families

HIGHEST PRIORITIES	
SB295	<p><b>Malama `Ohana:</b> Proposal for a working group through the Office of Wellness and Resilience to hold listening sessions throughout the state and have community partners work together to improve and transform the child welfare system.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> Passed with no appropriation</p>
HB490 SB1007	<p><b>Paid Family Leave:</b> Would provide wage replacement (a percentage of one's income) to eligible workers when they take time off from work to care for a seriously ill family member or themselves or to bond with a new child.</p>
HB241 SB1126 <i>(measures died but CDTC increase put into budget)</i>	<p><b>Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit:</b> Proposes reforms to the existing state CDCTC to provide increased benefits to a greater number of families with dependents.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit was increased from \$2,400 per taxpayer to \$10,000 and was incorporated into HB300.</p>
HB1049 SB1347 <i>(measures died but EITC increase put into budget)</i>	<p><b>Tax Relief to Ease Cost of Living (Green Affordability Plan):</b> Proposes new tax credits, improved benefits, and adjustments to tax policies to reduce the cost of living for families, teachers and low-income individuals.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> Earned Income Tax Credit was doubled (to 40% of the federal credit) via HB300</p>
SECONDARY PRIORITIES	
HB855	<p><b>End Taxes on Diapers:</b> Would end taxes on diapers, which will combat economic hardship and help reduce the high levels of stress caregivers experience.</p>
HB233 SB357	<p><b>Child Tax Credit:</b> Proposal to create a state CTC to fill the gaps left by the reduced federal CTC.</p>
SB1439	<p><b>Rent Relief:</b> Proposal for a permanent, state-funded rent relief program to provide temporary assistance to families who miss a rent payment. Intended to create greater housing stability and provide temporary relief.</p>
HB548 SB308	<p><b>Erin's Law:</b> Would mandate that DOE provide sexual abuse education to all students (K-12), educators and parents/guardians.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Measures did not survive but DOE did receive funding to address some items in the bill</p>
HB581	<p><b>Mandatory Domestic Violence Training for Custody Evaluators and Fact Finders:</b> Would require custody evaluators and fact finders to take a minimum of 5 hours of domestic violence training before they can be added to the list of custody evaluators at the Judiciary, and a requirement for continuing educations.</p>
HB618 SB984	<p><b>Removing Mandatory Mediation in Paternity Proceedings for Domestic Violence Victims:</b> Proposal to amend the paternity proceedings to match the existing divorce proceedings - removing the requirement for mediation for survivors.</p>
HB483, 582 SB238, 952	<p><b>Extension of civil statute of limitations for sexual abuse:</b> Would amend civil statute of limitations for child sexual abuse to allow for longer period of time (age 50 years) to file civil lawsuit against abusers.</p>
HB300	<p><b>DHS Budget Asks:</b> Additional funds for FRCs, funds for CWS, funds for child wellness pilot (\$50 for child wellness visit), and funds for clothing/school supplies TANF/TAONF.</p> <p><b>Update:</b> HB300 passed with significant legislative wins for young children and families - see <a href="#">Commit to Keiki update</a></p>

## On-track Health and Development

HIGHEST PRIORITIES	
<b>SB1351</b>	<b>Early Childhood Mental Health:</b> Establishes the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Program within the Department of Health to support and build out the system of mental health services for children from birth to age five.
<b>HB1248</b>	<b>DA BUX:</b> Funding to support Double Up Food Bucks (Hawaii healthy food incentive program), which partners with food retailers to make Hawai'i grown fruits and vegetables more affordable for SNAP-EBT cardholders.
<b>HB69</b>	<b>Full-Service Community Schools:</b> Proposal to expand and provide funding for full-service community schools, in which schools become the hub of their community and coordinate relationships and resources to accelerate equitable outcomes in health, education, and employment.
SECONDARY PRIORITIES	
<b>SB908</b>	<b>Sugar-Sweetened Beverages:</b> Imposes a fee on sugar-sweetened beverages and creates a special fund to support efforts to prevent obesity and chronic disease
<b>SB894</b>	<b>Office of Wellness and Resilience:</b> Transfers OWR from the Office of the Governor to the Department of Human Services. Reconstitutes the membership of the Trauma-Informed Care Task Force into a permanent advisory board to the Office of Wellness and Resilience to be called the Wellness and Resilience Advisory Board. <b>Update:</b> Fully funded at \$895,000 plus 6 FTE

## Accessible and Quality Early Care and Learning

HIGHEST PRIORITIES	
<b>HB547</b>	<b>Infant/Toddler Child Care Workforce Wage Supplement:</b> Proposal for a two-year Infant & Toddler Child Care Worker Subsidy Pilot Program to supplement workforce wages.
<b>HB502</b> <b>SB311</b>	<b>Contracted Infant &amp; Toddler Slots Pilot Program:</b> Proposal for a two-year Infant and Toddler Child Care Contracted Slots Pilot Program to increase subsidy access and stabilize child care providers.
<b>HB961</b>	<b>Preschool Expansion/Enhancement:</b> Expansion/enhancement of Preschool Open Doors subsidy and EOEL prek programs. (Ready Keiki) <b>Update:</b> Expansion of POD and EOEL prek to 3-year-olds; \$38.8M FY25 budget appropriation
<b>SB239</b>	<b>Child Care Provider Accreditation:</b> Proposal for a program to support child care providers to obtain quality accreditation from a national organization and to extend the deadline by which Preschool Open Doors providers must achieve accreditation. <b>Update:</b> \$2.1M and 1 FTE FY24 budget appropriation for support program; extension of accreditation requirement to 2029/2034 (initiate/complete)
<b>HB300</b>	<b>EOEL Budget Asks:</b> Funding to expand and support operational costs of public preschool classrooms, expand Family-Child Interaction Learning programs, and support the early childhood education stipend program for students. <b>Update:</b> \$3.9M and 36 FTE appropriation for FY 24, \$7.6M and 126 FTE for FY 25 to support prekindergarten classroom operations; \$660K for Early Childhood Educator Stipends Program

**SECONDARY PRIORITIES**

<b>HB960</b>	<b>SFA Preschool Facilities Fund Transfer:</b> Transfers \$200,000,000 of general funds previously appropriated to the School Facilities Authority of the Department of Education to the school facilities special fund.
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**ALSO TRACKING**

<b>SB1022</b>	<b>Early Learning Board:</b> Amends the composition and qualifications of the Early Learning Board to consist of individuals from each county, instead of from particular entities or types of providers. Establishes general qualifications for the members. <b>Update:</b> Final language stipulates 1 voting member for each County except Honolulu, while will have 3, plus 3 additional at-large voting members; DOE, DHS, DOH, UH, KS and HAIS to serve in ex-officio, non-voting capacity
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<b>SB481</b>	<b>Kindergarten Entry Assessment:</b> Repeals standardized assessment requirements for students entering kindergarten.
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