

GROUP THOUGHTS ON LEGISLATION (HB2543): Special ELB Meeting on 1.31.20

QUESTIONS TO KEEP IN MIND:

- What is the opportunity that presents itself?
- If there is an opportunity, how do we guarantee experiences for children and families are good ones?
- How do we (ELB) play into that guarantee?

NOTE: Rep Luke is saying EOEL/ELB will stay intact (waiting on language from Rep Woodson to insert into bill draft); Rep Luke would like to meet with EC stakeholders next week

WHAT QUESTIONS DOES THE BILL RAISE?

- How address pre-natal and birth to three children and families?
- How include family child care?
- How address family choice?
- Issues related to transferring EOEL and/or birth-five system work to DHS
 - DHS funding (e.g., CCDBG) cannot currently be used for “brick and mortar” nor to fund education
 - There is already under-utilization of existing Preschool Open Doors (POD) funding
 - What will happen with POD?
- How will bill be operationalized?
- Does all of our system-building work (B-5) go away?
- Do we really need another entity?
- ELB’s responsibility to talk with families currently not within the EC system? (identify barriers preventing engagement; identify opportunities/choice they want)
- How can we address workforce capacity? (we need to consider pathways not just for ECE but for social work, home visitors, health specialists, etc.)
- What is the “right” governance structure to achieve this 10-year plan?
- Who will be in charge of implementation planning?
- Implementation planning:
 - Create ad hoc committee of ELB and community stakeholders (consider current ELB sub-committees?) – put this on February meeting agenda for action
 - Lauren and Pankaj have a meeting next week to begin planning between 2 agencies
 - How shape aspirational goals to maximize success potential?
 - What are our shared desired outcomes?
- How will we all be kept apprised of things moving forward? How will we align our testimony to Leg?
- What appropriations are we looking for?
- How do we scale up preschools?
- What are the legal barriers regarding authority and funding that need to be addressed?

WHAT INFORMATION SHOULD LEGISLATORS KNOW/CONSIDER?

- Need to understand what attaching an agency to a department means and how this works; what specific jurisdictions are possible
- Need clear governance structure
- B-5 system building work is already in place
 - EC State Plan
 - PDG B-5 Strategic Plans
 - Decades of work
- EOEL funds are being used for public pre-K programs, as well as FCIL school-based programs with a birth to five focus
- Already have a 10-year plan (concept paper) that's been worked on and is being revisited
- Important to keep what we already have in place and build upon it
- Quality matters – especially for the families we are targeting in this legislation
- Workforce capacity issues – what supports can be put into place to ensure we have enough of a qualified workforce for an expanded pre-k system?
- Need to consider different birth to five options for families to have
- Consider community-based solutions for early learning
- Include language in bill to include Hawaiian language medium early learning settings

WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE A RAPID EXPANSION OF PRE-K FOR 3's and 4's?

- Public/private partnership model
- Quality matters – what are the standards we want in place?
- Workforce capacity needs to be addressed – both for early childhood educators and for support services personnel