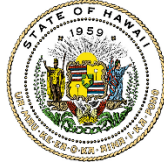


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



YUUKO ARIKAWA-CROSS
DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
Executive Office on Early Learning
2759 South King Street, Room C6
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

August 26, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker
and Members of the House of
Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the report on the Early Learning Special Fund pursuant to Section 302L-5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes ("HRS").

In accordance with Section 93-16, HRS, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at: <https://earlylearning.hawaii.gov/reports-to-the-legislature-2024/>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Yuuko Arikawa-Cross".

Yuuko Arikawa-Cross
Director

Enclosure

- c: Governor's Office
Lieutenant Governor's Office
Department of Budget & Finance
Legislative Auditor
Legislative Reference Bureau (one hard copy)
Hawai'i State Public Library System, Publications Distribution Center (two hard copies;
one electronic copy)
Hamilton Library, Serials Department, University of Hawai'i (one hard copy)



Executive Office on Early Learning

Report to the 2024 Legislature: Early Learning Special Fund August 26, 2024

Context

The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) was established by Act 178, Session Laws of Hawai'i (SLH), Regular Session 2012 (Act 178). On July 1, 2015, EOEL transferred from the Office of the Governor to the State of Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE) and became administratively attached to HIDOE consistent with Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) § 302L-1.5.

Consistent with HRS §§ 302L-1.5 and 302L-2, the EOEL develops and administers an early learning system that ensures a spectrum of high-quality, developmentally appropriate early learning opportunities for children from prenatal care until the time children enter kindergarten, with priority given to those who are underserved or at-risk.

The Keiki First Steps Trust Fund was established by Act 14, SLH, Special Session 2008, to be administered by the then-established Early Learning Council, to be used to support the early learning system in the State of Hawai'i.

In 2009, pursuant to Act 194, SLH, Regular Session 2009, the Keiki First Steps Trust Fund was renamed the Early Learning Trust Fund and the Early Learning Trust Fund moved to the administration of the EOEL when the EOEL was established in 2012 with the enactment of Act 178.

In 2020, Act 46, SLH, Regular Session 2020 (Act 46), amended the Early Learning Trust Fund to become the Early Learning Special Fund and required the EOEL to submit annual reports to the Legislature on the sources of money deposited into the Early Learning Special Fund, and expenditures made from the Fund, no later than August 31 of each year.

Pursuant to Act 46, the purpose of the Early Learning Special Fund remains unchanged and the sources of money that can be deposited into the Fund remain the same from Act 14, SLH, Special Session 2008. The expenditures from the Early Learning Special Fund remain the same as Act 14, SLH, Special Session 2008, also.

Early Learning Special Fund

No money was deposited into the Early Learning Special Fund in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024. No expenditures were made from the Early Learning Special Fund during the same time period (FY 2023-2024).