

Keiki Focus

News

27 June 2008

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House Bill Passes

The U.S. House Education & Labor Committee yesterday passed H.R. 3289, Providing Resources Early for Kids Act (PRE-K Act), by a vote of 31 to 11 to improve the quality of state pre-school programs. This bill was introduced by Congresswoman Mazie Hirono.



If passed into law, qualifying states will receive federal funding that could be used for a variety of program improvement purposes, including: increasing the number of early childhood educators with bachelor's degrees; reducing student-teacher ratios; implementing research-based curricula; and providing vital comprehensive services such as health screenings and nutritional assistance.

To qualify, states must have a state-funded preschool program that meets much of the quality criteria that was outlined in the Hawaii Act 259 Early Learning Educational Task Force's Final Report. Hawaii's proposed Early Learning Council and its subsequent work to develop a comprehensive quality early learning system could help our state meet the eligibility criteria outlined in this bill.

Read More

[The announcement on HR3289 can be found here.](#)

Good Beginnings Alliance is a nonprofit organization working in partnership with families, communities, policy makers, early childhood providers and advocates to shape community will and public policy, mobilize action and maximize resources for Hawai'i's children. Good Beginnings Alliance is a member of [Voices for America's Children](#)