The Hawaii Children’s Policy Agenda reflects the collaboration of Hawaii Children’s Action Network Community Champion members. Members are committed to improving the lives of Hawaii’s children and families by promoting public policy changes that benefit their health, safety, and education.

This recap of the 2018 legislative session highlights the wins and some of the most significant losses. While there were strong wins for keiki and youth in 2018, the legislature was unsuccessful in passing critical initiatives that would have improved the lives of Hawaii’s children and families.

**In Numbers**

- 96% of the bills and resolutions proposed by members were introduced by lawmakers
- 14 action alerts on behalf of members
- 324 online testimonies submitted to lawmakers
- 2 community rallies in support of paid family leave & early childhood legislation
- 34 organizations
- 13 individuals
- members collaborated on the Agenda
Big Wins For Keiki

**HEALTH & WELLNESS**

$2.7 million for early intervention services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays.

*Early Intervention Network*

A ban on chlorpyrifos, a dangerous neurotoxin shown to cause brain damage in children, and buffer zones around schools during normal hours.

*Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action*

Codification of protections of the Affordable Care Act, including coverage of pre-existing conditions, children up to age 26, and banning the use of gender to determine premiums.

*Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest & Hawaii*

**EDUCATION**

Enshrining the federal Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act (Title IX) at the state level, to ban gender-based discrimination in state-funded educational programs.

*Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women*

A constitutional amendment on the November ballot to allow the state to tax investment properties to fund public education (including pre-k).

*Hawaii State Teachers Association*

Increased funding for the Department of Education Community Engagement Office.

*HE`E Coalition*

Increased funding to support the Executive Office on Early Learning, Early Learning Board and online training for educators.

*Executive Office on Early Learning & HCAN*

Funds for teacher incentive pay for charter schools.

*Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network*

**CHILD SAFETY & WELFARE**

Foster Youth Bill of Rights giving all children in foster care certain explicit rights and protections.

*EPIC `Ohana, Inc.*

Coordinated care for keiki and youth by making the Hawaii Interagency State Youth Network of care permanent.

*Hawaii Youth Services Network*

Missed Opportunities

**Paid Family Leave**

Instead of a program, the legislature funded another actuarial analysis of different paid family leave models, to be conducted by the Legislative Reference Bureau by September 2019.

**Erin’s Law**

Would have required the Department of Education to establish a prevention-oriented child sexual abuse program. About 90% of children who are victims of abuse know their abuser.

**$15 Minimum Wage**

Would have increased the minimum wage to $15 by 2021 and supported the 48% of Hawaii families with children who do not earn enough to cover their basic needs.

**Childcare Subsidies**

Would have expanded the qualifying age for Preschool Open Door subsidies to children younger than 4 yrs old, making childcare more accessible and affordable for working families.

**Tobacco Buffer Zones**

Would have prohibited the sale of tobacco within 500-1,000 feet of schools and public playgrounds in order to reduce youth smoking rates.

**Children of Incarcerated Parents**

Would have established visitation centers at correctional facilities to improve visitation by children of incarcerated parents. According to testimony for Senate Bill 2305, "Visits can include long waits; body frisks, rude treatment; and exposure to crowded visiting rooms with no activities for children."

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Community Champion Members

Hawaii Children’s Action Network (HCAN) is a movement supporting keiki and strengthening their families. We advocate for laws and policies that keep our children safe, healthy and ready to learn so they thrive. This takes a league of members, volunteers, and donors.

The results of this agenda would not have been possible without the dedication and partnership of our Community Champion members, community partners, and the Hawaii State Legislature and their staff. Mahalo!

ORGANIZATIONS
- AlohaCare
- American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter
- Autism Society of Hawaii
- Blueprint for Change
- Easter Seals Hawaii
- EPIC ‘Ohana, Inc.
- Family Hui Hawaii
- Family Programs Hawaii
- Family Support Services of Hawaii
- Hawaii Afterschool Alliance
- Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action
- Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice
- Hawaii Association of School Psychologists
- Hawaii Construction Alliance
- Hawai’i Keiki: Healthy & Ready to Learn
- HawaiiKidsCAN
- Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network
- Hawaii Public Health Institute
- Hawaii State Teachers Association
- Hawaii Youth Services Network
- Imua Family Services
- INPEACE
- Kamehameha Schools
- The Learning Coalition/HE’E Coalition
- Parents And Children Together (PACT)
- Parents for Public Schools Hawaii
- PATCH Hawaii
- Seagull Schools
- PHOCUSED
- Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii
- Project Vision Hawaii
- The Sex Abuse Treatment Center
- University of Hawaii - Center on the Family
- Waianae Coast Early Childhood Services

INDIVIDUALS
- Stephanie Batzer
- Liz Chun
- JoAnn Farnsworth
- Jessica Garlock
- Troy Jarrell
- Elizabeth McFarlane
- Jacce Mikulanec
- Quin Ogawa
- David Okumura
- Melissa Pavlicek
- Jeannine Souki
- Karen Worthington
- Erica Yamauchi

To become a member or make a gift to support this work visit: www.hawaii-can.org