RESULTS

Every year, Hawaii Children's Action Network convenes over 50 organizations from different sectors that serve and support Hawaii’s children and families. Collectively, we identify the policy initiatives most needed to support the education, health, safety and welfare of Hawaii’s children.

Those initiatives form the Hawaii Children's Policy Agenda which is presented to state lawmakers at the start of the legislative session.

POLICY INITIATIVES AND BILLS

- **54** POLICY INITIATIVES
- **29** BILLS INTRODUCED
- **12** BILLS PASSED
BIG WINS FOR KIDS IN 2017

Public Pre-K Expansion
Funding for 5 new public pre-k classrooms for the 2018-2019 school year
An addition 100 students eligible for public preschool

Special Ed Pre-K
60 permanent positions for special ed preschool teachers and educational assistants
Gives teachers and students the resources they need to thrive

Child Hunger
Prohibits denying a meal to students with a zero balance in their meal accounts
Grants a grace period for parents to add money to the meal account or the school to enroll the child in the free or reduced lunch program.

Child Safety & Welfare
Amends the definition of child abuse to include sex trafficking
Further protecting our children from abuse and exploitation

Economic Security for Families
Establishes a State Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income families
An opportunity for working families to make ends meet

Family Strengthening
$300,000 for multi-generational Family-Child Interaction Learning programs
Programs like Tutu and Me and Keiki Steps that work with low-income families to prepare kids for kindergarten.

Strengthening State Office on Early Learning
5 new permanent positions in the Executive Office on Early Learning, and expanded functions of the Early Learning Advisory Board
Provides a governance structure to the state office that will enable it to continue to expand the state's public preschool and early learning programs.

Protecting Health Care
Establishes a taskforce to protect Hawaii in the event Affordable Care Act is repealed

Hawaii Children's Action Network is the only non-profit in Hawaii solely committed to advocating for children. We address the root causes of poverty and inequity and develop public policies that help children and their families.