



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Social Services Division
Child Welfare Services Branch
810 Richards Street, Suite 400
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Foster Parent:

The 2001 legislature passed Act 73, which is the Authority of Foster Parents to Provide Consents for a Foster Child's Educational and Recreational Needs. Act 73 authorizes foster parents to provide consent and information, as well as acknowledge receipt of information on behalf of the Department of Human Services (DHS), for routine educational and recreational activities consistent with the DHS' plans for foster children under its custody. Intramural and extramural activities are not considered routine at this time because of concerns with possible injury to the foster child and liability issues. The Department of Education and DHS agree that the following are examples of routine activities:

1. Report cards, absent or tardy excuses, discipline notices (suspension, discipline), registration materials, course selection, grade level adjustments, retention notices, and permission to be placed in optional educational programs such as Gifted and Talented, Pregnant Teen Program, Primary School Adjustment Program, graduation notices and announcements
2. Parent meeting, conference notices, permission to participate in field trips, fund raising activities, and co-curricular activities (clubs, band, dances)
3. Request to dispense prescription medication by the school's nurse, free and reduced lunch program, bus transportation program subsidy
4. Permission to participate in classes such as sex education

The foster child's social worker must remain informed about the foster child and the school, especially with grade placement and school activities that may be in conflict with the birth family's culture or religious beliefs. Please also list the foster child's social worker as another emergency contact person for the school. If you have questions, contact your foster child's social worker or your foster home licensing social worker.

Sincerely,

Amy Tsark
Branch Administrator