



State Department of Education's Role in Programs for Exceptional Children

Hatsuko F. Kawahara

In 1949 the Territorial Legislature passed Act 29 which helped establish public school programs and services for exceptional children. Act 29, SL-1949 reads: "An act to provide for special education and facilities for exceptional children; to create a Division of Special Education within the Territorial Department of Public Instruction; to enable the Department of Public Instruction to provide instruction, special facilities and special services for exceptional children." The State Department of Education, Guidance and Special Education Branch, administers programs for the mentally retarded emotionally disturbed, neurologically impaired, health impaired, home-bound and hospitalized children, orthopedically handicapped children, and children with speech defects. Diagnostic services for exceptional children are provided throughout the State. Presently a total of approximately 1640 exceptional children are enrolled in 131 public school classes.

Special Classes

The number of special classes in state schools for exceptional children are indicated as follows:

State Schools

1. Diamond Head School
 - a. 17 classes for the deaf and three classes for the blind
2. Kaioli School

- a. two classes for emotionally handicapped children
3. Linekona School
 - a. ten classes for the mentally retarded
 - b. one class at Detention Home
4. Olomana School at Koolau Youth Facility for Delinquents
 - a. six classes

The number of special classes in each of the seven districts are:

	Honolulu	Central	Lee-ward	Wind-ward	Maui	Kauai	Hawaii
1. Mentally Retarded Trainable	10	2	1	2	2	1	3
2. Mentally Retarded Educable	23	12	11	14	8	7	11
3. Learning Disabilities	5	—	—	—	—	—	1
4. Emotionally Handicapped ..	2	—	—	2	1	1	1
5. Partially Seeing	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Orthopedically Handicapped ..	11	—	—	—	—	—	—

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