

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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#### **Hawaii Reaffirms Their Commitment to Military Children**

Mark Needham, Chair of the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3), on behalf of the Commission recognizes the signing of Hawaii House Bill 4.

Today, Governor Abercrombie signs into law House Bill 4, making the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children permanent in the State of Hawaii. Hawaii, an initial member of the Commission, reaffirms with the signing of this bill their commitment to our military families and their children.

The Commission sends their thanks and compliments to the primary sponsors, Representative Mark Takai and Senator Jill Tokuda, for their leadership on this important legislation. The Commission also expresses their gratitude to Hawaii MIC3 Commissioner Kathy Berg, State Council Member Cherise Imai, and Representative Roy Takumi for their leadership, devotion, and commitment. Hawaii, with its very large military contingent, is leading the way in its support for our military and the education of their children.

The average military student faces transition challenges more than twice during high school and most military children will attend six to nine different school systems in their lives from kindergarten to 12th grade. The Compact seeks to make the transition easier for the children of military families so that they are afforded the same opportunities for educational success as other children and are not penalized or delayed in achieving their educational goals.

Thirty-nine states have adopted the Compact and placed it in statute. The Department of Defense continues to work with the Commission, Council of State Governments, national organizations, and state leaders to bring the remaining states on board.

For more information on the Interstate Compact or the Commission, please visit the MIC3 website at [www.mic3.net](http://www.mic3.net).

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