

JAN 22 2016

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. The Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois,  
2 Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and Prevent Child  
3 Abuse Illinois collaborated to create "Erin's Law". Erin Merryn  
4 was raped and molested for six and a half years by a neighbor  
5 and a family member. Erin began a crusade her senior year of  
6 high school in 2004 to end the silence and shame around sexual  
7 abuse. Erin's Law has been passed in seven states with more  
8 than ten states introducing it. Recently, President Obama  
9 signed legislation providing federal funding for Erin's Law.  
10 Erin's mission is to shatter the silence and stigma around  
11 sexual abuse, and to educate children and empower them to  
12 recognize and to report abuse.

13       The legislature finds that schools fail to give young  
14 students awareness and a voice if someone is violating them.  
15 Unfortunately without being educated most children will be  
16 repeatedly abused for years because often the only message they  
17 get comes from their abuser threatening them into silence.



1       The purpose of this Act is to educate public school  
2 students on sexual abuse prevention through an age appropriate  
3 curriculum.

4       SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended by adding a new section to part II, subpart B, to be  
6 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

7       "§302A- Sexual abuse prevention instructional program;  
8 guidelines. (a) The broad guidelines of the sexual abuse  
9 prevention instructional program shall be to:

10       (1) Educate children in grades pre-kindergarten through  
11 twelve in public schools on sexual abuse prevention  
12 through age appropriate curriculum through role plays,  
13 discussions, activities, and books;

14       (2) Give children the tools to speak up and tell if anyone  
15 has ever touched them inappropriately rather than keep  
16 it a secret; and

17       (3) Educate children on safe touch, unsafe touch, safe  
18 secrets, unsafe secrets, and how to get away and  
19 report an incident immediately.

20       (b) All public schools shall establish a sexual abuse  
21 prevention instructional program for students in grades



1 pre-kindergarten through twelve, consistent with subsection (a).  
2 The content of instruction shall be at the discretion of the  
3 board; provided that at minimum, the instruction shall include:

4 (1) Techniques to teach children to recognize child sexual  
5 abuse, equip them with skills to reduce their  
6 vulnerability, and encourage them to report the abuse;

7 (2) At least four sessions of instruction to reinforce the  
8 concepts learned in the program;

9 (3) Sessions conducted at least annually, building on  
10 skills learned the previous year;

11 (4) Developmentally appropriate instruction for each grade  
12 level;

13 (5) Involvement of students as active learning  
14 participants, and include discussions, modeling, and  
15 role playing;

16 (6) A capacity to be delivered by a wide range of  
17 personnel and professionals, including teachers,  
18 school counselors, outside agency prevention  
19 educators, and the like; provided that the personnel  
20 and professionals should have a thorough knowledge of



1 child sexual abuse, including how to respond

2 appropriately to sexual abuse disclosures;

3 (7) An evaluation component with measurable outcomes;

4 (8) Instruction that is culturally sensitive and adaptable

5 for use within varying school contexts, including age,

6 race, and special needs;

7 (9) An evidence-based curriculum, to the extent possible;

8 (10) A professional training component for administrators,

9 teachers, and other school personnel on talking to

10 students about child sexual abuse prevention, effects

11 of child sexual abuse on children, handling of sexual

12 abuse disclosures, and mandated reporting; and

13 (11) A component that encourages parental involvement

14 within the child sexual abuse prevention program.

15 This component should inform parents about child

16 sexual abuse topics, including characteristics of

17 offenders, grooming behaviors, and how to discuss this

18 topic with children."

19 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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transmitted

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# S.B. NO. 2441

**Report Title:**

Education; Sexual Abuse Prevention; Erin's Law

**Description:**

Establishes a sexual abuse prevention instructional program for public schools. Sets out guidelines of instruction. Modeled after Erin's Law.

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