
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) There is established within the department
2 of education for administrative purposes a trauma-informed
3 approach task force. The task force shall consist of the
4 following members or their designees:
- 5 (1) The superintendent of education, who shall serve as
6 the chairperson of the task force;
 - 7 (2) The director of human services;
 - 8 (3) The chairperson of the board of trustees of the office
9 of Hawaiian affairs;
 - 10 (4) The director of the executive office on early
11 learning;
 - 12 (5) The chairperson of the Hawaiian homes commission;
 - 13 (6) The director of business, economic development, and
14 tourism;
 - 15 (7) The governor;
 - 16 (8) The president of the senate;
 - 17 (9) The speaker of the house of representatives;



1 (10) The chief justice; and

2 (11) The president of the Hawaii state teachers
3 association, who shall be invited to be a member of
4 the task force by the director of human services.

5 (b) The task force shall develop a trauma-informed
6 approach plan for the department of education. The plan shall
7 include:

8 (1) The requirement for the designation of at least one
9 individual at each school to:

10 (A) Oversee the implementation of the trauma-informed
11 approach plan at that school, integrating the
12 coordination of services and professional
13 development into the school's policies; and

14 (B) Serve as a member of a school's student
15 assistance program team;

16 (2) A process for the coordination of services among:

17 (A) Students and students' families;

18 (B) The school; and

19 (C) County-based services, community care
20 organizations, public health entities, nonprofit
21 youth service providers, community-based



- 1 organizations, organizations that provide before-
2 or after-school care, and similar groups located
3 in the community;
- 4 (3) An indication of how coordinated services are provided
5 based on a trauma-informed approach with an
6 understanding, recognition, and responsiveness to the
7 effects of trauma on education, absenteeism, and
8 school completion, including the secondary impact of
9 trauma on school employees;
- 10 (4) Utilization of research-based, research-informed, and
11 culturally specific approaches and national models
12 that are tailored to the community to ensure that data
13 are collected, and the effectiveness of the trauma-
14 informed approaches are determined; and
- 15 (5) Professional development and support for principals,
16 vice-principals, and teachers that foster a culture in
17 the school and community that is informed about how to
18 understand, recognize, and respond to trauma and
19 address the impact of trauma on students as a
20 secondary impact on school employees.



1 (c) No member shall be made subject to chapter 84, Hawaii
2 Revised Statutes, solely because of that member's participation
3 as a member of the task force.

4 (d) The department of education shall provide
5 administrative support to the task force.

6 (e) The task force may participate in and collaborate with
7 any other task force for purposes of this Act.

8 (f) The task force shall submit its plan and any findings,
9 recommendations, and proposed legislation to the legislature no
10 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
11 session of 2021.

12 (g) The task force shall cease to exist on July 1, 2021.

13 (h) For purposes of this Act:

14 "Trauma" means results from an event, series of events, or
15 set of circumstances that are experienced by an individual as
16 physically or emotionally harmful or threatening and that has
17 lasting adverse effects on the individual's cognitive
18 functioning and physical, social, emotional, mental, or
19 spiritual well-being.

20 "Trauma-informed approach" means a schoolwide approach to
21 education and a classroom-based approach to student learning



1 that recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in students,
2 families, and staff and responds by fully integrating knowledge
3 of trauma into policies, professional learning, procedures, and
4 practices for the purposes of recognizing the presence and onset
5 of trauma, resisting the reoccurrence of trauma and promoting
6 resiliency tailored to a school entity's culture, climate,
7 demographics, and the community as a whole.

8 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
11 expenses of the trauma-informed approach task force established
12 pursuant to section 1 of this Act.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
14 education for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on December 31,
16 2059.



Report Title:

Trauma-Informed Approach; Task Force; DOE; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a task force to develop trauma-informed approaches for the Department of Education. Task force to cease 7/1/2021. Appropriates funds. Effective 12/31/2059. (HD1)

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