

JAN 21 2022

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING PREVENTION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that sex trafficking is a  
2 form of modern-day slavery. According to a 2018 report  
3 published by Arizona state university and the Hawaii state  
4 commission on the status of women, one out of every eleven adult  
5 males living in Hawaii is an online sex shopper. The report  
6 also estimated that there were 74,362 potential sex buyers in  
7 Hawaii. Moreover, during the COVID-19 pandemic, a service  
8 provider for sex trafficking victims in Hawaii reported seeing a  
9 three hundred per cent increase in demand for services, which  
10 included trauma-informed care.

11           The legislature further finds that education ends  
12 exploitation. By empowering students to protect themselves from  
13 harm and build healthy relationships, training school staff in  
14 how to respond to at-risk youth in a trauma-informed manner, and  
15 creating sexual health programs that include information about  
16 sex trafficking, schools can equip students with the knowledge



1 and skills needed to prevent themselves from becoming victims of  
2 sexual exploitation as minors and upon reaching adulthood.

3 The purpose of this Act is to protect Hawaii's public  
4 school students from sexual exploitation by requiring the  
5 department of education to offer training to teachers and school  
6 staff on how to prevent and respond to potential cases of sex  
7 trafficking.

8 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
10 and to read as follows:

11 "§302A- Sex trafficking prevention training. (a) The  
12 department shall offer training for teachers, educational  
13 officers, and school-based behavioral health specialists on sex  
14 trafficking prevention and response, including:

- 15 (1) Methods used to lure children into sex trafficking;
- 16 (2) Identifying victims of sex trafficking;
- 17 (3) Effects of sex trafficking on a victim's social,  
18 mental, and physical health;
- 19 (4) Impact of sex trafficking on children of different  
20 racial and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations,  
21 and gender identities;



- 1        (5) Strategies to assist in the prevention of sex
- 2            trafficking of children;
- 3        (6) Trauma-informed strategies for responding to victims
- 4            of sex trafficking;
- 5        (7) Informational resources for victims of sex
- 6            trafficking;
- 7        (8) Information on victim service providers that provide
- 8            services to students who have been identified as
- 9            victims of sex trafficking or who are at risk of
- 10           victimization; and
- 11        (9) Information about the importance of enthusiastic
- 12           consent in preventing sex trafficking and sexual
- 13           violence.
- 14        (b) At the beginning of each school year, explanatory
- 15        information about protocols that the department has approved for
- 16        providing services to victims of sex trafficking shall be made
- 17        available to teachers, educational officers, and school-based
- 18        behavioral health specialists.
- 19        (c) The department may coordinate and contract with any
- 20        state or county department or agency, any victim service



1 provider, or any other expert in the field of sex trafficking  
2 prevention and response to implement this section.

3 (d) As used in this section, "victim service provider"  
4 means any non-governmental organization that provides direct  
5 intervention, social, medical, mental health, legal, case  
6 management, educational, emergency, or housing services to  
7 victims of sex trafficking."

8 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Jan Acasio



# S.B. NO. 2565

**Report Title:**

Sex Trafficking Prevention Training; Department of Education

**Description:**

Requires the department of education to offer training for teachers, educational officers, and school-based behavioral health specialists on sex trafficking prevention and response.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

