
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is important to
2 continue to support the incorporation of trauma-informed
3 education in the State's public education system. Trauma-
4 informed education involves mental health education for
5 students, teachers, staff, parents, and community members; adds
6 a flexible, responsive, and measured strategy for addressing
7 trauma; and is an important component to the department of
8 education's multi-tier system of supports.

9 In 2021, the legislature established a trauma-informed
10 education program in the windward district, which built upon the
11 work of Compassionate Ko'olaupoko. Compassionate Ko'olaupoko has
12 brought together schools, community groups, businesses, and
13 community members to envision what a trauma-informed community
14 would look like. The legislature also appropriated funds for
15 two positions to expand trauma-informed education and care in
16 the Ko'olaupoko region. Over the past year, there have been
17 numerous students, faculty, and community members who have been



1 positively impacted by this trauma-informed education program.
2 Through the trauma-informed education program, educators and
3 other school faculty have received training on trauma awareness
4 and have learned skills to recognize behavior that results from
5 exposure to trauma. Consequently, students and families have
6 been able to engage in culturally informed, place-based
7 restorative practices.

8 The purpose of this Act is to establish and appropriate
9 funds for permanent positions to continue the trauma-informed
10 education program in the Castle, Kailua, and Kalaheo complex
11 areas.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$111,606 or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the
15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
16 2024-2025 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent
17 complex area compassionate Ko'olaupoko trauma-informed resource
18 teacher position; provided that the roles and responsibilities
19 of the position include the following:

20 (1) Designs and delivers high quality professional
21 learning opportunities and technical assistance,



- 1 including culturally-relevant, best practices in
2 trauma-responsive practices to build capacity and
3 sustainability;
- 4 (2) Collaborates with district and school-level staff and
5 partnering organizations to access and coordinate
6 appropriate resources;
- 7 (3) Supports meetings with the district education
8 specialist to advance projects and programs; provides
9 technical assistance on designated priorities; and
10 collaborates with internal staff and external groups,
11 state and federal agencies, and business or
12 professional associations;
- 13 (4) Assists the district education specialist with
14 coordination and collection of programmatic
15 information for testimony, reports, and presentations
16 to various audiences, including but not limited to the
17 legislature and board of education;
- 18 (5) Adheres to all procurement rules, regulations, and
19 contractual requirements of the department of
20 education and state and federal entities;



1 (6) Assists the district education specialist in hosting
2 advisory council meetings as needed in order to
3 provide culturally attuned, trauma-responsive
4 information that is helpful to the community; and

5 (7) Performs other related duties as required or assigned.

6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
7 of education for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$140,073 or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the
11 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
12 2024-2025 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent
13 district educational specialist II position, to be located
14 within the office of the Castle-Kahuku complex area
15 superintendent; provided that the roles and responsibilities of
16 the position include the following:

17 (1) Designs and delivers high quality professional
18 learning opportunities and technical assistance,
19 including culturally-relevant, evidence-based best
20 practices in trauma-informed practices to build
21 capacity and sustainability;



- 1 (2) Collaborates with district and school-level staff and
2 partnering organizations to access and coordinate
3 appropriate resources;
- 4 (3) Provides leadership and administrative oversight for
5 the compassionate Ko'olaupoko coalition, including
6 development and delivery of activities that ensure
7 that the goals and objectives of the designated funds
8 are achieved and engaging stakeholders;
- 9 (4) Supports monthly meetings with the steering committee
10 to advance projects and programs; provides technical
11 assistance on designated priorities; and collaborates
12 with internal staff and external groups, state and
13 federal agencies, and business or professional
14 associations;
- 15 (5) Executes fiscal, personnel, and contract transactions
16 in a timely manner; oversees project budgets and
17 ensures full, proper, and compliant utilization of
18 resources; and gathers and analyzes all interim,
19 annual progress, and expenditure reports to ensure
20 compliance with appropriate laws, policies,
21 procedures, and grant terms and conditions;



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- 1 (6) Coordinates the collection of and provides
- 2 administrative, fiscal, and programmatic information
- 3 for testimony, reports, and presentations to various
- 4 audiences, including but not limited to the
- 5 legislature and board of education;
- 6 (7) Adheres to all procurement rules, regulations, and
- 7 contractual requirements of the department of
- 8 education and state and federal entities;
- 9 (8) Helps to host advisory council meetings three times a
- 10 year to promote quality assurance in execution of
- 11 implementation plans; and
- 12 (9) Performs other related duties as required or assigned.

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

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Lisakitagawa*
JAN 23 2023



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Report Title:

Department of Education; Trauma-informed Education Program;
Positions; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for one twelve-month complex area trauma-informed resource teacher permanent position and one district educational specialist II permanent position for the Castle-Kahuku complex area.

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

