
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CORRECTIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a significant
2 proportion of the individuals in the corrections and
3 rehabilitation system have experienced serious trauma during
4 their lifetimes.

5 The legislature further finds that corrections
6 professionals who are trained to properly assess and interact
7 with persons who have experienced trauma are better able to
8 engage these persons. As a result, these persons are more
9 likely to connect with vital services, less likely to commit
10 disciplinary infractions, and tend to experience improved
11 rehabilitation and reduced rates of recidivism.

12 The legislature also finds that the establishment of a
13 level I trauma-informed certification program may help to ensure
14 that the State's corrections professionals are properly trained
15 in trauma-informed care. A program certificate would require
16 the completion of three courses, including a basic trauma-
17 informed care course for adult corrections officers, especially



1 those assigned to the women's community correctional center.
2 The trauma-informed care course would be based upon an existing
3 course implemented by windward community college for mental
4 health technicians at Hawaii state hospital, and thus has
5 already been proven successful.

6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys to
7 windward community college to support a level I trauma-informed
8 certification program for adult corrections officers in the
9 State.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 to
13 support a level I trauma-informed certification program at
14 windward community college for adult corrections officers;
15 provided that:

16 (1) Courses shall be offered in eight-week or
17 sixteen-week-long blocks during the 2023-2024 academic
18 year;

19 (2) Eligible courses shall be offered at no cost to adult
20 corrections officers employed by the department of
21 public safety or succeeding agency;



1 (3) The certificate shall require completion of a level I
2 trauma-informed care course designed for adult
3 corrections officers; and

4 (4) Moneys appropriated may be used for instructor costs,
5 tuition, supplies, books, any necessary class
6 materials, speaker fees, travel by instructors to
7 correctional facilities to provide skills-building
8 workshops, and other expenses.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
10 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



Report Title:

Adult Corrections Officers; UH; Windward Community College;
Trauma-informed Certification Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to support a trauma-informed certification program at the Windward Community College campus of the University of Hawaii for adult corrections officers. Requires the curriculum to include a level I trauma-informed care course designed for adult corrections officers. Effective 6/30/3000.
(HD1)

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