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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO YOUTH.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the  
2 overrepresentation of youth from the Native Hawaiian community,  
3 Pacific Islander communities, and communities of color across  
4 Hawaii's criminal justice system reflects intergenerational  
5 trauma, cultural dislocation, and risk factors associated with  
6 poverty.

7           The legislature also finds that adolescence is a period of  
8 risk-taking and experimentation, in which youth of all cultural  
9 backgrounds explore their place in society. The decisions made  
10 in this period of life have long-term implications for the  
11 health of individuals and the community. Risky behavior by  
12 youth from at-risk communities have particularly dangerous  
13 consequences, including a higher risk of mortality, poverty,  
14 chronic health issues, and suicide. These behaviors may also  
15 lead to incarceration and continued cycles of trauma.

16           Youth from all communities deserve a stable and  
17 well-rounded upbringing. Best practices regarding youth from



1 underserved communities who face negative risk factors and  
2 adverse childhood experiences suggest that culturally focused  
3 solutions have positive results. Longitudinal studies of youth  
4 from across the world that study resilience note the importance  
5 of healthy relationships and healthy experiences through the  
6 tumultuous years of adolescence.

7       The legislature also finds that numerous programs across  
8 the State that offer mentorship, sports, after-school  
9 programing, counseling, and friendship have made an impact in  
10 the lives of hundreds of children over decades of service.  
11 These programs have been adversely affected by the coronavirus  
12 disease 2019 pandemic. In addition, the privatization of many  
13 extracurricular activities has left many underserved youth  
14 without avenues to explore their roles in the community.

15       The legislature believes that youth deserve investment in  
16 both time and resources. The legislature also believes that  
17 investment in the activities of youth from the Native Hawaiian  
18 community, Pacific Islander communities, and communities of  
19 color, who are overrepresented in Hawaii's criminal justice  
20 system, is a matter of statewide concern.



1           The purpose of this Act is to increase funding to services  
 2 and programs that support youth by establishing a grant program  
 3 within the office of youth services, which is intended to  
 4 decrease the overrepresentation of youth from the Native  
 5 Hawaiian community, Pacific Islander communities, and  
 6 communities of color across Hawaii's criminal justice system and  
 7 address intergenerational trauma, cultural dislocation, and risk  
 8 factors associated with poverty.

9           SECTION 2. Chapter 352D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
 10 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
 11 and to read as follows:

12           "§352D-           Programs and entities supporting at-risk youth;  
 13 grants. (a) The office shall administer a grant program, which  
 14 shall provide grants to qualified programs and entities that  
 15 support the State's youth; provided that the office shall give  
 16 priority to programs that:

- 17           (1) Support youth from ethnic groups that:
  - 18           (A) Are disproportionately represented in the Hawaii
  - 19                 youth correctional facility, the State's overall
  - 20                 prison or jail population, or the State's
  - 21                 correctional system in general; or



- 1           (B) As shown by statistics, are at a  
2           disproportionately higher risk of mortality,  
3           poverty, chronic health issues, suicide, or other  
4           risk factors;
- 5           (2) Address the negative effects of adverse childhood  
6           experiences;
- 7           (3) Support rehabilitation as an alternative to  
8           incarceration for youth offenders; or
- 9           (4) Meet community needs identified pursuant to needs  
10           assessments or the community consultation described in  
11           subsection (c).
- 12           (b) In addition to the criteria established in  
13           subsection (a), the office shall also give priority to programs  
14           that obtain matching funds from non-state sources.
- 15           (c) Before awarding any grants pursuant to this section,  
16           the office shall solicit input from community partners to  
17           identify priorities and unmet needs. The office shall  
18           periodically solicit input to update the grant program's  
19           priorities.
- 20           (d) Subject to the availability of funds, grants may be:



- 1        (1) Awarded for a multi-year period, up to a maximum of  
2        five years; or
- 3        (2) If awarded on an annual basis, may be renewed annually  
4        up to a maximum of five years at the discretion of the  
5        executive director.
- 6        (e) Requests for grants shall be submitted to the office  
7        in accordance with administrative rules adopted by the  
8        department to administer the grant program. Each request shall  
9        at a minimum state:
- 10       (1) The name of the program or entity requesting grant  
11         funds;
- 12       (2) The expenses that are necessary for the program or  
13         entity to provide the service; and
- 14       (3) The population the program or entity serves.
- 15       (f) Each applicant for a grant shall provide proof that  
16       the applicant:
- 17       (1) Has United States citizenship or permanent United  
18         States resident alien status and is a resident of the  
19         State at the time of application;



- 1        (2) Is currently licensed or registered as a program or
- 2                    entity, or is an exempt provider approved by the
- 3                    department;
- 4        (3) Provides the activities at the time of application;
- 5        (4) Complies with all other federal, state, or county
- 6                    statutes, rules, or ordinances necessary to conduct
- 7                    the activities or provide the services for which a
- 8                    grant is awarded;
- 9        (5) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws
- 10                   prohibiting discrimination against a person on the
- 11                   basis of race, color, national origin, religion,
- 12                   creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
- 13        (6) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or
- 14                   lobbying activities;
- 15        (7) Allows the office, legislative committees and their
- 16                   staff, and the auditor full access to the applicant's
- 17                   records, reports, files, and other related documents
- 18                   and information for the purposes of monitoring,
- 19                   measuring the effectiveness of, and ensuring the
- 20                   proper expenditure of the grant;



- 1       (8) Is not a part of, owned or operated by, or owned or  
2       operated as a private educational institution;
- 3       (9) Satisfies any other standards that may be required by  
4       the source of funding; and
- 5       (10) Meets all other standards prescribed in rules adopted  
6       by the office to implement the grants awarded under  
7       this section.
- 8       (g) Every program or entity who, after meeting the  
9       requirements of subsection (f), receives grant funds from the  
10      department shall be required to provide the activity or services  
11      for \_\_\_\_\_.
- 12      (h) Every request for grant funds shall be submitted to  
13      the office on an application form provided by the office and  
14      shall at a minimum contain the information required by  
15      subsection (f). The office shall review each request to  
16      determine whether the applicant is eligible to receive grants  
17      funds and shall make a final decision on each request. The  
18      office shall inform each grant applicant of the disposition of  
19      the applicant's request. The office shall adopt rules to  
20      establish an appeals process for any denial of a request.



1       (i) The office shall not release the public funds approved  
2 for a grant under this section unless a contract is entered into  
3 between the office and the grant recipient. The office shall  
4 develop and determine, in consultation with and subject to  
5 review and approval of the department of the attorney general,  
6 the specific contract form to be used.

7       (j) Appropriations for grants made under this section  
8 shall be subject to the allotment system generally applicable to  
9 all appropriations made by the legislature.

10       (k) Every grant contract executed pursuant to this section  
11 shall be monitored by the office to ensure compliance with this  
12 section and shall be evaluated annually to determine whether the  
13 grant attained the intended results in the manner contemplated.

14       (l) Any grant recipient who withholds or omits any  
15 material fact or deliberately misrepresents facts to the office  
16 shall be in violation of this section and, in addition to other  
17 penalties provided by law, any recipient found to have violated  
18 this section or the terms of any contract executed pursuant to  
19 this section shall be prohibited from applying for any office  
20 grants for a period of five years from the date of termination.





1       (m) The office shall include information on the grant  
2 program in its annual report to the governor and the legislature  
3 submitted pursuant to section 352D-6(11), including a summary of  
4 the priorities identified pursuant to subsections (a), (b), and  
5 (c), a listing of grants awarded, and the programs supported by  
6 the grants.

7       (n) The office shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to  
8 carry out the purposes of this section.

9       (o) For the purposes of this section:

10       "Grant" means an award of state funds to a specified  
11 recipient to support the activities of the recipient and permit  
12 the community to benefit from those activities.

13       "Private educational institution" means a non-public entity  
14 that provides:

15       (1) Educational services for any grades from kindergarten  
16       through grade twelve;

17       (2) Post-secondary education; or

18       (3) Pre-kindergarten level services,

19 that are provided by an entity that holds itself out to the  
20 public as a school or educational institution, or that are



1 identified by the entity as educational services rather than  
2 solely as child care services.

3 "Recipient" means a program or entity receiving a grant."

4 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and  
7 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
8 year 2024-2025 to establish a grant program within the office of  
9 youth services.

10 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
11 youth services for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



H.B. NO. 456  
H.D. 1

**Report Title:**

Office of Youth Services; At-risk Youth Grant Program;  
Appropriations

**Description:**

Establishes the at-risk youth grant program within the office of youth services. Gives priority to programs that support youth from ethnic groups that are disproportionately represented in the State's correctional system, support rehabilitation, or meet needs identified by the office of youth services in consultation with the community. Appropriates funds. Effective 6/30/3000.  
(HD1)

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

