
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FIREARMS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the United States
2 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has declared that
3 firearm violence is a serious public health problem. For
4 children and young adults between one and nineteen years of age,
5 firearm injuries were the leading cause of death in 2020 and
6 2021. The legislature further finds that safely storing
7 firearms when not in use is vitally important and that further
8 education and reminders are needed.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
10 department of education to create and distribute to the parents
11 and guardians of students a firearms access prevention and
12 secure storage model notice.

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

16 "§302A- Child firearms access prevention and secure
17 storage notice. (a) By September 1, 2024, the department shall



1 develop a firearms access prevention and secure storage model
2 notice which shall include information describing state law
3 relating to the secure storage of firearms, including but not
4 limited to sections 134-9.3 and 134-10.5 and statewide resources
5 and information related to child firearm access prevention,
6 secure storage of firearms, and firearm violence prevention.
7 The model notice shall be produced in English, Olelo Hawaii, and
8 other common languages spoken by department students. The
9 department shall annually update the model notice and shall
10 publish it on its website.

11 (b) Beginning September 1, 2024, all public schools shall
12 provide a firearms access prevention and secure storage notice
13 for all students at the beginning of the first semester or
14 quarter of the regular school year; provided that if a student
15 enrolls after the beginning of the school year, the notice shall
16 be provided within one week of enrollment. The notice shall be
17 in a written format such as a brochure, flyer, handbill,
18 leaflet, letter, or pamphlet, and be provided directly to the
19 parent or guardian of the student in person, by mail to the
20 parent's or guardian's last known mailing address, by email to
21 the parent's or guardian's email address, or by any other



1 reasonable methods authorized by the department. One notice may
2 be provided for multiple students living in the same household.

3 (c) Beginning September 1, 2024, any complex areas and
4 public schools that maintain websites or social media presences
5 shall publish or post the firearms access prevention and secure
6 storage notice on those websites and social media platforms.

7 (d) The department, any complex areas, and public schools
8 shall not be civilly liable for the death of or injury to
9 persons or property damage related to providing, or failing to
10 provide, the notice required under this section."

11 SECTION 3. Section 302A-856, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 "[+]§302A-856[+] Youth suicide awareness and prevention
14 protocol. (a) The department, in collaboration with the
15 department of health, shall develop a mandatory youth suicide
16 awareness and prevention training program and a model risk
17 referral protocol for complex areas and charter schools based on
18 the department of health's existing suicide awareness and
19 prevention curriculum and materials, which shall be provided to
20 teachers, teacher assistants, administrators, and counselors.



1 (b) The youth suicide awareness and prevention training
2 program shall include information about limiting access to
3 firearms and include the firearms access prevention and secure
4 storage notice prepared by the department pursuant to section
5 302A- .

6 [~~(b)~~] (c) By September 15 of each year, each complex area
7 shall report to the department on prior school year training
8 prevention activities completed as described by this section.

9 [~~(e)~~] (d) Neither the department nor any of its agencies,
10 boards, members, personnel, designees, agents, or volunteers
11 shall be liable in civil damages to any party for any act or
12 omission of an act relating to the provision of, participation
13 in, or implementation of the components of the training program
14 or protocol required by this section unless that act or omission
15 amounts to gross negligence, wilful and wanton conduct, or
16 intentional wrongdoing.

17 [~~(d)~~] (e) The department may adopt rules pursuant to
18 chapter 91 to include and require contracted workers to
19 participate in and comply with the suicide awareness and
20 prevention training program and risk referral protocol
21 requirements under this section and section 302D-36."



1 SECTION 4 Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4

INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 22 2024



H.B. NO. 2323

Report Title:

DOE; Firearms; Firearm Safety; Firearm Access Prevention; Secure Storage

Description:

Requires the Department of Education to create and distribute to the parents and guardians of students a firearms access prevention and secure storage model notice.

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

