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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CRISIS INTERVENTION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that thousands of people  
2 in the State are cited or arrested each year for offenses such  
3 as drinking liquor in public; loitering in public parks after  
4 hours; and camping on sidewalks, beaches, and other restricted  
5 public places. Some cited individuals suffer from chronic  
6 conditions relating to drugs, alcohol, or mental illness. Many  
7 cited individuals do not appear in court, leading courts to  
8 issue bench warrants for their arrests. Extensive time and  
9 resources are expended bringing violators to court, creating an  
10 endless cycle for the court system, prosecutors, and police.

11           In response to an influx of habitual offenders, mental  
12 health service providers have been working with appropriate law  
13 enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system to  
14 implement crisis intervention programs. A critical member of a  
15 crisis intervention team is the law enforcement officer. When  
16 law enforcement officers are trained in mental health first aid



1 and crisis intervention, de-escalation and prevention efforts  
2 have been successful.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 4 (1) Authorize the department of law enforcement to  
5 coordinate crisis intervention training for state and  
6 county law enforcement agencies; and  
7 (2) Establish positions and appropriate funds related to  
8 crisis intervention training.

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 353C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
11 and to read as follows:

12 **"§353C- Crisis intervention training. (a) The**  
13 department may coordinate crisis intervention training for state  
14 and county law enforcement agencies. The department and county  
15 law enforcement agencies shall identify one or more nationally  
16 recognized crisis intervention organizations able to provide  
17 training and certification for crisis intervention officers.

18 (b) For the purposes of this section, "crisis intervention  
19 training" means training that emphasizes methods for recognizing  
20 and communicating with a person in crisis or suffering from some  
21 form of impairment, whether from dementia, Alzheimer's disease,



1 or any physical, developmental, cognitive, psychological, or  
2 substance disorder influencing their behavior."

3 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
4 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
5 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
6 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
7 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
8 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by

9 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes  
10 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
11 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
12 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
13 ceiling are that:

- 14 (1) The appropriations made in this Act are necessary to  
15 serve the public interest; and
- 16 (2) The appropriations made in this Act meet the needs  
17 addressed by this Act.

18 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for  
21 the establishment of full-time equivalent ( FTE) crisis



1 intervention coordinator positions, who shall be exempt from  
2 chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to administer and  
3 coordinate the crisis intervention training program; provided  
4 that, upon approval from the director of law enforcement, a  
5 crisis intervention coordinator may be removed by the director  
6 of law enforcement; provided further that the director of law  
7 enforcement shall determine the final salary of crisis  
8 intervention coordinators.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
10 law enforcement for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to  
14 train and certify officers in:

15 (1) Mental health first aid, as managed, operated, and  
16 disseminated by the National Council for Mental  
17 Wellbeing; and

18 (2) The crisis intervention team model, as developed by  
19 Crisis Intervention Team International.

20 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
21 law enforcement for the purposes of this Act.

- 1 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.
- 2 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

DLE; Crisis Intervention Training; Positions; Appropriation;  
Expenditure Ceiling

**Description:**

Authorizes the Department of Law Enforcement to coordinate crisis intervention training for state and county law enforcement agencies. Establishes positions. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

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

