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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the office of  
2 wellness and resilience leads efforts to make Hawaii a trauma-  
3 informed state. Trauma-informed care is defined as an approach  
4 to understanding, recognizing, respecting, and responding to the  
5 pervasive and widespread impacts of trauma on a person's ability  
6 to connect with themselves and others, the person's place and  
7 the elements around them, and the person's ways of being.

8           The legislature further finds that strengthening policies  
9 and programs to be trauma-informed can result in better  
10 workforce retention and recruitment.

11           The legislature also finds that the office of wellness and  
12 resilience is best suited to be a semi-autonomous authority  
13 under the department of human resources development because of  
14 its unique oversight of, and collaboration with, other executive  
15 state departments.

16           The department of human resources development has  
17 oversight over all other state departments on topics of focus



1 for the office of wellness and resilience and a trauma-informed  
2 state, including workplace environment and well-being, training  
3 and professional development, benefits, and recruitment and  
4 retention.

5 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 6 (1) Transfer the office of wellness and resilience to the  
7 department of human resources development for  
8 administrative purposes only;
- 9 (2) Establish a wellness and resilience advisory board  
10 within the department of human resources development;  
11 and
- 12 (3) Update the office of wellness and resilience's  
13 functions.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
15 by adding to part IX a new section to be appropriately  
16 designated and to read as follows:

17 "§27-\_\_\_\_\_ Wellness and resilience advisory board;  
18 establishment; members; roles. (a) There is established within  
19 the department, for administrative purposes only, a wellness and  
20 resilience advisory board to advise the office in implementing



1 this part. The board shall consist of eleven members, with  
2 quorum being six members. The eleven members shall be:

3 (1) The director of health, or the director's designee,  
4 who shall serve as the chairperson of the advisory  
5 board;

6 (2) The director of human services, or the director's  
7 designee;

8 (3) The superintendent of education, or the  
9 superintendent's designee;

10 (4) The director of corrections and rehabilitation, or the  
11 director's designee;

12 (5) The director of the executive office on early  
13 learning, or the director's designee;

14 (6) A member of the judiciary, to be appointed by the  
15 chief justice of the supreme court;

16 (7) A faculty member from the university of Hawaii John A.  
17 Burns school of medicine, to be appointed by the dean  
18 of the university of Hawaii John A. Burns school of  
19 medicine; and

20 (8) The following four members appointed by the  
21 chairperson for a term of four years:



- 1           (A) The chief executive officer of Kamehameha  
2           Schools, or the chief executive officer's  
3           designee;
- 4           (B) A member of the law enforcement community;
- 5           (C) A member of the nonprofit sector; and
- 6           (D) A community member or nonprofit representative  
7           from the Compact of Free Association islander  
8           community.

9           (b) The wellness and resilience advisory board shall  
10          advise on wellness and resilience through trauma-informed care  
11          in the State. Specifically, the advisory board shall:

12          (1) Create, develop, and adopt a statewide framework for  
13          trauma-informed and responsive practice. The  
14          framework shall include:

- 15          (A) A clear definition of "trauma-informed and  
16          responsive practice";
- 17          (B) Principles of trauma-informed and responsive care  
18          that may apply to any school, health care  
19          provider, law enforcement agency, community  
20          organization, state agency, or other entity that  
21          has contact with children or youth;



- 1           (C) Clear examples of how individuals and  
2           institutions may implement trauma-informed and  
3           responsive practices across different domains,  
4           including organizational leadership, workforce  
5           development, policy and decision-making, and  
6           evaluation;
- 7           (D) Strategies for preventing and addressing  
8           secondary traumatic stress for all professionals  
9           and providers working with children and youth and  
10           their families who have experienced trauma;
- 11           (E) Recommendations to implement trauma-informed care  
12           professional development and strategy  
13           requirements in state and county contracts; and
- 14           (F) An implementation and sustainability plan,  
15           consisting of an evaluation plan with suggested  
16           metrics for assessing ongoing progress of the  
17           framework;
- 18           (2) Identify best practices, including those from Native  
19           Hawaiian cultural practices, with respect to children  
20           and youth who have experienced or are at risk of  
21           experiencing trauma, and their families;



- 1        (3) Provide a trauma-informed care inventory and  
2                    assessment of public and private agencies and  
3                    departments;
- 4        (4) Identify various cultural practices that build  
5                    wellness and resilience in communities;
- 6        (5) Convene trauma-informed care practitioners so that  
7                    they may share research and strategies in helping  
8                    communities build wellness and resilience;
- 9        (6) Seek ways in which federal funding may be used to  
10                   better coordinate and improve the response to families  
11                   impacted by coronavirus disease 2019, substance use  
12                   disorders, domestic violence, poverty, and other forms  
13                   of trauma; and make recommendations, as necessary, for  
14                   a government position to communicate with federal  
15                   agencies to seek and leverage federal funding with  
16                   state and county agencies and philanthropic  
17                   organizations; and
- 18        (7) Coordinate data collection and funding streams to  
19                   support the efforts of the board.
- 20        (c) The nongovernmental members of the wellness and  
21 resilience advisory board shall serve without compensation but



1 shall be reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses,  
2 necessary for the performance of their duties."

3 SECTION 3. Section 27-61, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended as follows:

5 1. By adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted  
6 and to read:

7 "Department" means the department of human resources  
8 development."

9 2. By repealing the definition of "trauma-informed care  
10 task force".

11 [~~"Trauma-informed care task force" means the trauma-~~  
12 ~~informed care task force established pursuant to Act 209,~~  
13 ~~Session Laws of Hawaii 2021."]~~

14 SECTION 4. Section 27-62, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

16 "(a) There is established within the [~~office of the~~  
17 ~~governor, on a temporary basis and for special purposes,~~]  
18 department, for administrative purposes only, the office of  
19 wellness and resilience."

20 SECTION 5. Section 27-63, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
21 amended to read as follows:



- 1        "[~~f~~]**S27-63**[~~f~~] **Functions.** The office shall:
- 2        (1) Address issues identified and implement solutions
- 3                recommended by the [~~trauma-informed care task force~~]
- 4                wellness and resilience advisory board through a
- 5                cross-representation of state departments and the
- 6                private sector, including private donors;
- 7        (2) Identify common issues, unmet needs, and challenges
- 8                encountered by departments and work to solve those
- 9                issues through a cross-representation of state
- 10                departments and the private sector, including private
- 11                donors;
- 12        (3) Seek funding solutions using moneys that each
- 13                department has access to, including federal, state,
- 14                and private sources, and work with philanthropic
- 15                organizations and other entities from the private
- 16                sector to re-evaluate the State's funding priorities
- 17                and find funding solutions to implement
- 18                interdepartmental programming;
- 19        (4) Establish a procurement team that has cross-agency
- 20                representation to streamline existing department grant



- 1 and funding management and meet existing fiduciary  
2 obligations and other state requirements;
- 3 (5) Interact with community agencies, organizations, and  
4 other stakeholders to ensure the office is meeting the  
5 needs and wellness requirements of communities  
6 throughout the State; [~~and~~]
- 7 (6) Create a social determinants of health electronic  
8 dashboard that identifies a baseline of needs and  
9 concerns that impede high quality-of-life outcomes[~~-~~];  
10 and
- 11 (7) Provide training and technical assistance to executive  
12 state departments and agencies to support trauma-  
13 informed policies, practices, programs, and  
14 processes."

15 SECTION 6. Chapter 346, part XXI, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
16 is repealed.

17 SECTION 7. Act 209, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, is  
18 repealed.

19 SECTION 8. Act 87, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, is  
20 repealed.



1 SECTION 9. All rights, powers, functions, and duties of  
2 the office of the governor relating to the office of wellness  
3 and resilience are transferred to the department of human  
4 resources development.

5 All officers and employees whose functions are transferred  
6 by this Act shall be transferred with their functions and shall  
7 continue to perform their regular duties upon their transfer,  
8 subject to the state personnel laws and this Act.

9 No officer or employee of the State having tenure shall  
10 suffer any loss of salary, seniority, prior service credit,  
11 vacation, sick leave, or other employee benefit or privilege as  
12 a consequence of this Act, and such officer or employee may be  
13 transferred or appointed to a civil service position without the  
14 necessity of examination; provided that the officer or employee  
15 possesses the minimum qualifications for the position to which  
16 transferred or appointed; and provided that subsequent changes  
17 in status may be made pursuant to applicable civil service and  
18 compensation laws.

19 An officer or employee of the State who does not have  
20 tenure and who may be transferred or appointed to a civil  
21 service position as a consequence of this Act shall become a



1 civil service employee without the loss of salary, seniority,  
2 prior service credit, vacation, sick leave, or other employee  
3 benefits or privileges and without the necessity of examination;  
4 provided that such officer or employee possesses the minimum  
5 qualifications for the position to which transferred or  
6 appointed.

7       If an office or position held by an officer or employee  
8 having tenure is abolished, the officer or employee shall not  
9 thereby be separated from public employment, but shall remain in  
10 the employment of the State with the same pay and classification  
11 and shall be transferred to some other office or position for  
12 which the officer or employee is eligible under the personnel  
13 laws of the State as determined by the head of the department or  
14 the governor.

15       SECTION 10. All rules, policies, procedures, guidelines,  
16 and other material adopted or developed by the office of the  
17 governor to implement provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes  
18 that are reenacted or made applicable to the department of human  
19 resources development by this Act shall remain in full force and  
20 effect until amended or repealed by the department of human



1 resources development pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised  
2 Statutes.

3 In the interim, every reference to the office of the  
4 governor or governor in those rules, policies, procedures,  
5 guidelines, and other material is amended to refer to the  
6 department of human resources development or director of human  
7 resources development, as appropriate.

8 SECTION 11. All deeds, leases, contracts, loans,  
9 agreements, permits, or other documents executed or entered into  
10 by or on behalf of the office of the governor, pursuant to the  
11 provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, that are reenacted or  
12 made applicable to the department of human resources development  
13 by this Act, shall remain in full force and effect. Upon the  
14 effective date of this Act, every reference to the office of the  
15 governor or governor therein shall be construed as a reference  
16 to the department of human resources development or director of  
17 human resources development, as appropriate.

18 SECTION 12. All appropriations, records, equipment,  
19 machines, files, supplies, contracts, books, papers, documents,  
20 maps, and other personal property heretofore made, used,  
21 acquired, or held by the office of the governor relating to the



1 functions of the office of wellness and resilience transferred  
2 to the department of human resources development shall be  
3 transferred with the functions to which they relate.

4 SECTION 13. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
5 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 14. This Act shall take effect on June 29, 3000.



# H.B. NO. 1081 H.D. 1

**Report Title:**

Office of Wellness and Resilience; Office of the Governor;  
Wellness and Resilience Advisory Board; DHRD

**Description:**

Transfers the Office of Wellness and Resilience to the  
Department of Human Resources Development. Creates a Wellness  
and Resilience Advisory Board. Updates the Office of Wellness  
and Resilience functions. Effective 6/29/3000. (HD1)

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