
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a 2019 ACLU report
2 showed that five thousand one hundred people are incarcerated in
3 Hawaii's prisons and jails. Alarminglly, the current system is
4 only meant to house about three thousand five hundred people
5 resulting in severe overcrowding. In 2019, Hawaii admitted an
6 average of more than one thousand thirty-seven prisoners per
7 month to the state correctional system. It is estimated that
8 the cost of incarceration per adult prisoner is nearly eighty
9 thousand dollars per year. These figures illustrate a strain
10 upon the State's resources as many of those inmates suffer from
11 mental illnesses and require specialized care that the current
12 facilities are not structured to support. The legislature finds
13 that Hawaii's prison system is in dire need of reform
14 particularly in its delivery of mental health care services to
15 inmates across facilities statewide.

16 In a report to the legislature, the department of
17 corrections and rehabilitation outlined a plan in partnership



1 with the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine
2 (JABSOM) and the Queen's Health Systems (QHS), to provide
3 opportunities for JABSOM residents to complete clinical
4 rotations in psychiatry at the Oahu Community Correctional
5 Center. In particular, the report highlighted the need for
6 additional funding to match JABSOM and QHS cost increases in
7 order to continue these contractual agreements. Further, the
8 department is subject to increased costs associated with
9 participation in the Hawaii Psychology Internship Consortium
10 (HIPIC). Additional resource requirements are also needed to
11 expand APA accredited clinical psychology internship
12 opportunities within the correctional facilities. The
13 legislature finds that by facilitating these student education
14 partnerships through various funding mechanisms as determined by
15 the department, the State may begin to see necessary prison
16 reform.

17 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 18 (1) Authorize the department of corrections and
19 rehabilitation the ability to prioritize the
20 utilization of student education partnerships to



1 expand clinical psychologists in correctional
2 facilities throughout the State; and
3 (2) Provide additional long-term funding to the department
4 to expand its clinical psychology training programs.

5 SECTION 2. Section 353-13.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 "**[§353-13.3] Mental health care.** The department shall be
8 responsible for providing mental health services in community
9 correctional centers and shall utilize student education
10 partnerships to expand clinical psychologists and mental health
11 care providers in correctional facilities throughout the State."

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the
15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
16 2026-2027 for supporting and expanding clinical psychology
17 training programs within the department.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
19 of corrections and rehabilitation for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon approval.



H.B. NO. 1197

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 22 2025



H.B. NO. 1197

Report Title:

DC&R; Clinical Psychologists; Student Education Partnerships

Description:

Authorizes the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to utilize student education partnerships to increase the amount of mental health care providers in correctional facilities across the State. Appropriates funds.

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