
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STUDENT SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that schools must remain
2 safe, stable, and supportive environments for all students.
3 Unplanned law enforcement or immigration enforcement activity on
4 or near school campuses may cause fear, disruption to learning,
5 and emotional distress for students and families.

6 The legislature further finds that while public schools
7 must comply with applicable law, the department of education has
8 a responsibility to ensure that school personnel are trained,
9 prepared, and guided by clear protocols that prioritize student
10 safety, continuity of education, and lawful due process.

11 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
12 education to develop, establish, and implement a standardized
13 emergency response plan governing immigration enforcement
14 activity at or near public schools, including training,
15 communication protocols, and safeguards for students and
16 families.



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

4 **"§302A- Immigration enforcement activity; school**

5 **emergency response plan.** (a) The department shall develop,
6 adopt, and implement a standardized emergency response plan for
7 public schools to address immigration enforcement activities
8 occurring on or near school campuses during instructional hours
9 or school-sponsored activities.

10 (b) The emergency response plan required pursuant to this
11 section shall be designed to:

12 (1) Protect student safety and emotional well-being;

13 (2) Minimize disruption to the educational environment;

14 (3) Ensure compliance with applicable state and federal
15 law; and

16 (4) Provide clear guidance to school administrators and
17 staff when immigration enforcement activity occurs on
18 or near school campuses.

19 (c) The emergency response plan required pursuant to this
20 section shall include, but not be limited to the following
21 components:



- 1 (1) Protocols for law enforcement presence, including:
 - 2 (A) Procedures for school administrators when
3 approached by immigration enforcement officials;
 - 4 (B) Requirements that any request to access school
5 grounds or student records be referred to
6 designated department legal counsel or
7 administrators; and
 - 8 (C) Guidance regarding warrants, subpoenas, and
9 consent, consistent with state and federal law;
- 10 (2) Student protection measures, including:
 - 11 (A) Procedures to ensure students are not questioned,
12 detained, or removed from a school campus without
13 appropriate legal authorization;
 - 14 (B) Prohibitions on school personnel assisting in
15 immigration enforcement activities beyond what is
16 legally required by state and federal law; and
 - 17 (C) Protocols to keep students supervised and safe at
18 all times;
- 19 (3) Parental and guardian communication, including:
 - 20 (A) Timely notification procedures for parents or
21 legal guardians when immigration enforcement



1 activity affects school operations or student
2 dismissal, to the extent permitted by law; and
3 (B) Multilingual communication protocols where
4 practicable;
5 (4) Staff training, including:
6 (A) Mandatory training for school administrators,
7 teachers, and relevant staff on the emergency
8 response plan; and
9 (B) Training that includes legal guidance, trauma-
10 informed practices, and student de-escalation
11 strategies;
12 (5) Coordination with complex areas and relevant state
13 agencies; and
14 (6) Periodic review and updates of the emergency response
15 plan to reflect changes in law or best practices.
16 (d) Personally identifiable student information shall be
17 protected in accordance with state and federal privacy laws,
18 including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974,
19 as amended.



1 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to obstruct
2 or interfere with lawful law enforcement activity conducted
3 pursuant to valid legal authority.

4 (f) Nothing in this section shall create a duty for school
5 personnel to determine a student's immigration status.

6 (g) The department shall submit a report to the
7 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
8 each regular session describing:

9 (1) Implementation of the emergency response plan required
10 pursuant to this section;

11 (2) Training conducted pursuant to the emergency response
12 plan; and

13 (3) Any other findings and recommendations, including
14 proposed legislation.

15 (h) The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91
16 to implement the purposes of this section."

17 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

19

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 27 2026



H.B. NO. 2445

Report Title:

Department of Education; Public Schools Immigration Enforcement; Emergency Response Plan

Description:

Requires the Department of Education to develop, establish, and implement a standardized emergency response plan governing immigration enforcement activity at or near public schools.

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

