

JAN 28 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENCAMPMENTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that encampments,
2 including tents, makeshift shelters, and other temporary
3 structures used for habitation, create a complex and pressing
4 problem when close to school grounds. When close to schools,
5 these encampments can threaten the safety, health, and overall
6 well-being of students, school staff, and surrounding
7 communities. Encampments can introduce environmental hazards,
8 obstruct public access, and pose public safety concerns.

9 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit the erection,
10 placement, construction, or maintenance of an encampment within
11 one hundred feet from the property line of a pre-K-12 public or
12 private school or school facility on public or private property.

13 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
14 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
15 as follows:

16 "CHAPTER

17 SCHOOL ENCAMPMENT BUFFER ZONES



1 **§ -1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

2 "Buffer zone" means one hundred feet from the property line
3 of a pre-K-12 public or private school or school facility on
4 public or private property.

5 "Encampment" means a tent, makeshift shelter, or any other
6 temporary structure used for habitation.

7 **§ -2 Buffer zone; schools.** (a) No person shall erect,
8 place, construct, or maintain an encampment within a buffer zone
9 of a pre-K-12 public or private school or school facility.

10 (b) Any person who violates subsection (a) shall be
11 subject to immediate removal and may be subject to a fine not to
12 exceed \$200.

13 (c) Nothing in this section shall preclude a person from
14 being charged with a trespassing violation pursuant to chapter
15 708 or any other violation.

16 (d) The department of education, charter schools, and
17 private schools may collaborate with law enforcement officers to
18 identify and remove encampments within the buffer zone.

19 (e) Law enforcement personnel enforcing this section shall
20 provide information related to temporary housing and



1 homelessness assistance programs to individuals displaced from
2 encampments.

3 (f) Law enforcement personnel shall take the personal
4 belongings of individuals displaced from encampments into
5 custody and store them at the police station or other designated
6 location, to be returned to the individual upon release from
7 custody."

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

9

INTRODUCED BY:



S.B. NO. 3242

Report Title:

Encampments; Buffer Zone; Schools; Prohibition

Description:

Prohibits the erection, placement, construction, or maintenance of an encampment within one hundred feet from the property line of a pre-K-12 public or private school or school facility on public or private property.

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

