## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PEER COUNSELING SERVICES IN HIGH SCHOOLS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that according to the
- 2 2004 National Center for Education Statistics Indicators of
- 3 School Crime and Safety Report, high school students were
- 4 victims of approximately eighty-eight thousand violent crimes on
- 5 their campuses. According to a 2001 Hawaii department of
- 6 education report, approximately one hundred ninety students were
- 7 victims of serious crimes at school or on their way to school.
- 8 A peer counseling program employs conflict management and peer
- 9 mediation to reduce campus violence.
- 10 The purpose of this Act is to provide peer counseling
- 11 programs in each high school in the State.
- 12 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 13 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
- 14 and to read as follows:
- 15 "\$302A- Peer counseling services; establishment in high
- 16 schools. There shall be created a peer counseling program that
- 17 shall offer peer counseling services in all high schools
- 18 statewide. The program shall be designed to reduce campus

HB LRB 07-1468.doc

# H.B. NO. 911

- 1 violence by the use of conflict management and peer mediation.
- 2 The board of education shall adopt rules in accordance with
- 3 chapter 91 to implement the purposes of this section."
- 4 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
- 5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so much
- 6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
- 7 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
- 8 2008-2009, for the creation of a peer counseling program that
- 9 provides peer counseling services in all high schools in the
- 10 State.
- 11 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
- 12 of education for the purposes of this Act.
- 13 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.
- 14 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval
- 15 except that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

16

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 2 2007

### Report Title:

Peer Counseling Services; High Schools

### Description:

Requires department of education to establish peer counseling services at each high school in the State. Appropriations.

