

JAN 18 2008

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that when a student  
2 enters a college or university, there is an expectation that the  
3 student will have emotional and academic support to successfully  
4 complete the student's post-secondary education. Such support  
5 should be part of a comprehensive student support services  
6 system. For all students, there should be academic support,  
7 primarily provided at the department level. For some students  
8 there will be a need for guidance and emotional support, which  
9 should be provided by advisors, housing staff, and related  
10 personnel. However, some students have severe emotional and  
11 behavioral needs. These students need access to counselors,  
12 psychologists, and psychiatrists.

13           The legislature further finds that the University of Hawaii  
14 system recently has had to focus on meeting the mental health  
15 needs of more students with more extensive psychological or  
16 medical problems or conditions. Some of the students had the  
17 support of Felix programs, such as school-based behavioral-



1 health, school counseling, special education, and other programs  
2 in the department of education's comprehensive student support  
3 system. However, the provision of those same services does not  
4 extend to these students now seeking higher education.

5 The need for additional mental health services is also  
6 necessary because of the increased number of former military  
7 personnel who are pursuing post-secondary education, many of  
8 whom possess issues relating to trauma suffered as a result of  
9 their combat experiences.

10 The overall goal of the University of Hawaii system should  
11 be to assure that there are comprehensive student support  
12 services. For approximately ninety per cent of students, this  
13 would assure that academic and behavioral support are provided  
14 through students services, as well as through academic  
15 departments and housing. However, for approximately ten per  
16 cent of the students, their needs are so great that they require  
17 counseling, psychological, psychiatric, and other advanced  
18 mental health services.

19 Nationally, in one year, 8.9 per cent of students, or one  
20 in eleven enrolled students, sought counseling or psychological  
21 help, according to the 2006 National Survey of Counseling Center  
22 Directors. From an internal analysis by the University of



1 Hawaii system, it is apparent that there is a need to enhance  
2 mental health and campus safety services. For example, at the  
3 University of Hawaii at Manoa there was a twenty-six per cent  
4 increase in the number of students seeking mental health  
5 services from the fall 2006 to the fall 2007 semester.

6 The legislature believes that there is a need to support  
7 additional mental health services and campus safety throughout  
8 the University of Hawaii system.

9 The purpose of this Act is to provide funding to the  
10 University of Hawaii system to address current mental health and  
11 campus security needs at each campus.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to  
15 ensure the provision of student mental health services within  
16 the University of Hawaii system. The University of Hawaii at  
17 Manoa counseling and student development center has documented  
18 that there are not enough mental health services available. The  
19 counselor/psychologist to student ratio is one to four thousand.  
20 The nationally recommended full-time counselor/psychologist to  
21 student ratio at university counseling centers is one to one  
22 thousand or one thousand two hundred. Funding to ensure the



1 provision of student mental health services within the  
2 University of Hawaii system shall be allocated for the following  
3 purposes:

4 (1) Three additional counselors/psychologists at the  
5 University of Hawaii at Manoa at a cost of \$240,000  
6 per year; and

7 (2) Additional personnel to staff mental health services  
8 at the other University of Hawaii campuses and  
9 community colleges.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
11 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

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 2008-2009 to ensure  
15 the provision of campus safety services within the University of  
16 Hawaii system; provided that the funds shall be allocated for  
17 the following purposes:

18 (1) Positions and funding for the University of Hawaii at  
19 Hilo for its security and safety programs, including  
20 safety in field work, workshops on such topics as  
21 workplace nonviolence, sexual harassment, hazardous



- 1 waste operations, first aid or CPR, shipping of
- 2 dangerous goods, and additional security coverage;
- 3 (2) Personnel costs for three positions, institutional
- 4 support—director of security, allied health and
- 5 safety, and a clerk at the University of Hawaii at
- 6 Hilo, at the cost of \$137,000;
- 7 (3) Necessary operating and equipment costs at the
- 8 University of Hawaii at Hilo, at the cost of \$146,185;
- 9 (4) Additional personnel to staff a central emergency
- 10 response center, campus security personnel, and the
- 11 expansion of the campus security student patrol
- 12 programs at the University of Hawaii at Manoa;
- 13 (5) Security guard services at the University of Hawaii
- 14 West Oahu campus, at the cost of \$57,780; and
- 15 (6) Additional positions and other expenses at the
- 16 community colleges to address health and safety
- 17 concerns on each campus.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
 19 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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**Report Title:**

UH; Mental Health Services; Campus Security Services;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for mental health and campus security  
services within the University of Hawaii system.

