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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AT-RISK YOUTH.

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

1           SECTION 1. The court system, department of education,  
2 department of health, department of human services, social  
3 service agencies, and other providers are overwhelmed by the  
4 problems surrounding at-risk youth.

5           Due to the shortage of diversion and inpatient treatment  
6 programs, many youth status offenders are placed in detention  
7 homes for months at a time. Still more at-risk youth fall  
8 through the cracks and receive inadequate or no services.  
9 Parents who are unable to control their children are faced with  
10 few to no options when it comes to obtaining adequate  
11 intervention services.

12           State departments and non-profits trying to assist at-risk  
13 youth lack resources and the ability to share information to  
14 form a cost-effective and comprehensive system to assist at-risk  
15 youth and their families. Now that the Felix consent decree has  
16 expired, many organizations must regroup and work together to  
17 strategize about how best to use limited resources to maximize  
18 outcomes for our at-risk youth.



1           The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force to  
2 create a cost-effective and comprehensive system to address  
3 problems relating to at-risk youth and their families.

4           SECTION 2. (a) There is established an at-risk youth task  
5 force to conduct comprehensive reviews of challenges facing at-  
6 risk youth in Hawaii and suggest a cost-effective system to  
7 address problems relating to at-risk youth and their families.  
8 The task force shall be administered by the University of  
9 Hawaii.

10           (b) The members of the task force shall be appointed by  
11 the department of health's child and adolescent mental health  
12 division and shall consist of a minimum of one representative of  
13 each of the following groups:

- 14           (1) The department of health's child and adolescent mental  
15           health division;
- 16           (2) Family court;
- 17           (3) The department of education's administration and  
18           school based behavioral health division;
- 19           (4) The department of human services' child welfare  
20           services;
- 21           (5) Hawaii youth correctional facility;
- 22           (6) Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health;



- 1 (7) Queens Medical Center;
- 2 (8) Bobby Benson Center;
- 3 (9) Hawaii Families as Allies;
- 4 (10) Island Partners in Care;
- 5 (11) Public defender's office;
- 6 (12) United States military;
- 7 (13) Hawaii Psychological Association;
- 8 (14) Neighborhood board members and legislators of affected
- 9 communities;
- 10 (15) Attorney general's office;
- 11 (16) Honolulu police department;
- 12 (17) University of Hawaii;
- 13 (18) Hawaii Primary Care Association;
- 14 (19) Hawaii Youth Services Network;
- 15 (20) Mental Health Association of Hawaii;
- 16 (21) Wraparound Services Working Group;
- 17 (22) Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative;
- 18 (23) Office of youth services of the department of human
- 19 services; and
- 20 (24) Hale Kipa.



1           (c) The at-risk youth task force shall hire a consultant  
2 to provide technical expertise and support for the at-risk youth  
3 task force.

4           (d) The at-risk youth task force shall hold public  
5 meetings and shall submit a report to the legislature no later  
6 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session  
7 of 2015 detailing its findings, recommendations, including a  
8 suggested cost-effective system to address problems relating to  
9 at-risk youth and their families, and any proposed legislation.

10          (e) The at-risk youth task force shall be dissolved on  
11 June 30, 2015.

12          SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much  
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the  
15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
16 2014-2015 for the at-risk youth task force to hire a consultant  
17 to provide technical expertise and support for the task force.

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

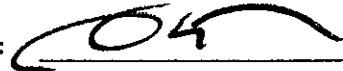
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1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
2 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 19 2013



**Report Title:**

At-risk Youth Task Force; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes an at-risk youth task force to recommend a cost-effective, comprehensive system to address problems relating to at-risk youth and their families. Requires the at-risk youth task force to submit a report to the legislature.

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

