
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that suicide is a major
2 health concern that claims approximately one million lives
3 worldwide each year. In Hawaii, suicide was the most common
4 cause of fatal injuries among Hawaii residents between 2010-
5 2014, accounting for one-quarter of all fatal injuries. One
6 person dies by suicide in Hawaii every two days. The
7 legislature is concerned with the health, safety, and welfare of
8 all the people of Hawaii, including military personnel,
9 veterans, and visitors.

10 The purpose of this Act is to establish a suicide
11 prevention task force to reduce suicides in Hawaii by twenty
12 five per cent by year 2025.

13 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a suicide prevention
14 task force, to be placed within the department of health for
15 administrative purposes. The suicide prevention task force
16 shall examine, evaluate, and determine methods to improve



1 education, awareness, support services, and outreach to best
2 prevent suicides in Hawaii.

3 (b) The suicide prevention task force shall consist of the
4 following fifteen members who shall serve until January 1, 2017:

5 (1) The suicide prevention coordinator for the department
6 of health;

7 (2) One member to be appointed by the governor;

8 (3) Two members who are survivors of suicide, to be
9 appointed by the governor;

10 (4) One member to be appointed by the president of the
11 senate;

12 (5) One member from the Hawaii Youth Leadership Council
13 for Suicide Prevention, to be appointed by the
14 president of the senate;

15 (6) One member to be appointed by the speaker of the house
16 of representatives;

17 (7) One member from the Hawaii Youth Leadership Council
18 for Suicide Prevention, to be appointed by the speaker
19 of the house of representatives;



- 1 (8) One member from the injury prevention and control
2 section and prevent suicide Hawaii task force, to be
3 appointed by the director of health;
- 4 (9) One member to be appointed by the dean of the
5 University of Hawaii, John A. Burns school of
6 medicine, from its department of psychiatry;
- 7 (10) One member to be appointed by the substance abuse and
8 mental health services administration of the United
9 States Department of Health;
- 10 (11) The suicide prevention program manager for the United
11 States Reserves in Hawaii;
- 12 (12) The president of the American Foundation for Suicide
13 Prevention Hawaii Chapter;
- 14 (13) The board chair of the American Foundation for Suicide
15 Prevention Hawaii Chapter;
- 16 (14) The community liaison of the American Foundation for
17 Suicide Prevention Hawaii Chapter; and
- 18 (15) One member to be appointed by the director or
19 president of Mental Health America Hawaii.



1 All appointees shall have expertise in fields or
2 disciplines related to suicide prevention and education or
3 awareness of suicide prevention.

4 Any vacancies in the task force shall be filled in the
5 manner provided for the original appointments.

6 (c) Upon the initial meeting of the task force, to occur
7 no later than thirty days after the passage of this Act, its
8 members shall elect a chair and vice chair and any other
9 necessary officers from among the appointed members. A majority
10 of the task force shall constitute a quorum to do business.

11 (d) The task force shall meet no less than quarterly. The
12 task force may hold additional public meetings as it deems
13 necessary. The chair, at the request of a majority of members,
14 may request special meetings.

15 (e) Members of the suicide prevention task force shall
16 receive no compensation for their services.

17 (f) The suicide prevention task force shall submit a
18 report of its recommendations to the legislature, which shall
19 include a strategic plan to reduce suicide in Hawaii by twenty-
20 five per cent by year 2025, using the calendar year 2015 as the



H.B. NO. 2002

Report Title:

Suicide Prevention Task Force

Description:

Establishes a suicide prevention task force to develop a strategic plan to reduce suicide in Hawaii by 25% by 2025.

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

