
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILD ABUSE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that increasing the
2 access and visibility of a hotline number designed to help
3 children who are the victims of abuse and neglect will increase
4 the number of reports of abuse and neglect and allow students
5 and victims to self-report. Based on the accounts of abused and
6 neglected children, it is evident that teachers are not always
7 able to recognize students who are being molested, abused, or
8 neglected. Increasing the visibility of and access to the child
9 abuse or neglect hotline and other related information will help
10 enable children get the help they desperately need.

11 The purpose of this Act is to require department of
12 education schools and charter schools to post signs that include
13 the child abuse or neglect hotline in highly visible, high
14 traffic locations to encourage students who are victims of abuse
15 and neglect to seek help and let them know there are resources
16 to help them in their tragic situations.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§302A- Child abuse or neglect hotline; posting. (a)
5 Each department school and charter school governed by chapter
6 302D shall post in a clearly visible location, in a public area
7 of the school that is readily accessible to students, a sign
8 that contains the department of human services child abuse or
9 neglect hotline.

10 (b) The director of human services, in consultation with
11 the superintendent, may adopt requirements relating to the size
12 and location of the sign required by subsection (a); provided
13 that at a minimum:

14 (1) The director shall decide what languages, other than
15 English, the sign shall be translated into to best
16 reach the targeted audiences;

17 (2) The language on the sign shall be in large font and
18 shall be clear, simple, and understandable to
19 students;



- 1 (3) The sign shall contain the current phone number for
2 the child abuse or neglect hotline and the number
3 shall be in bold print;
- 4 (4) The sign shall be eleven inches by seventeen inches or
5 larger;
- 6 (5) The sign shall be posted in a high traffic location
7 and at eye level of the students;
- 8 (6) The sign shall contain instructions to call 911 for
9 emergencies; and
- 10 (7) The sign shall contain directions for accessing the
11 department of human services child welfare services
12 website for more information on reporting abuse,
13 neglect, and exploitation."

14 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Education; Child Abuse and Neglect; Signs; Child Welfare Services; Department of Human Services

Description:

Requires Department of Education schools and charter schools to post informational signs that include the Department of Human Services phone number for reporting abuse and neglect. (HB2505 HD1)

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