
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO YOUTH VIOLENCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that youth violence is a
2 growing concern in Hawaii, particularly violence and juvenile
3 delinquency associated with gang membership. In addition,
4 homicide, suicide, aggravated assaults, and traffic accidents
5 due to alcohol consumption by underage youth represent large
6 costs for the State. In 2010, overall youth violence cost the
7 State over \$109,000,000, with \$28,000,000 in costs resulting
8 from youth property crime alone. In 2013, the average cost to
9 incarcerate a youth at the Hawaii youth correctional facility
10 was over \$199,000. Unfortunately, three-quarters of all youth
11 leaving the facility were re-adjudicated as delinquents or
12 convicted as adults within three years.

13 Consequently, the legislature finds that a multi-pronged
14 approach should be taken with programs that have the expertise
15 and experience to reach out and establish relationships and help
16 promote education, self-esteem, individual growth and
17 development, leadership, and responsibility. The legislature



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1 further finds that this approach should incorporate both a
2 school-centered program and a neighborhood-centered program.

3 The purpose of this Act, therefore, is help reduce youth
4 violence and delinquency in the State by appropriating funds to
5 the department of human services to fund the operational costs
6 of an organization providing therapeutic prevention and mental
7 health programs for high risk youth.

8 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
11 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
12 2016-2017 to fund operational costs to provide therapeutic
13 prevention and mental health programs for high risk youth.

14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
15 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.
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INTRODUCED BY:

John M. M...
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Report Title:

Youth; Mental Health; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to fund operational costs to provide therapeutic prevention and mental health programs for high risk youth.

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