
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of
2 education operates Hawaii's public schools on a \$1,700,000,000
3 budget that consists primarily of funds from the State. For
4 fiscal biennium 2013-2015, the program costs of the department
5 constituted more than fifteen per cent of the executive branch's
6 total program costs.

7 The purpose of this Act is to require a management and
8 program audit of the department of education's actions,
9 policies, and rules regarding bullying and cyberbullying. The
10 audit shall review complaints of bullying and cyberbullying
11 towards any student, parent, teacher, department personnel,
12 contract personnel, or department volunteer. The purpose of the
13 audit is to assist the department, board of education,
14 legislature, and executive branch in identifying and addressing
15 any issues necessary to improve the operations of the department
16 as it relates to minority groups, such as students with a
17 disability, students of an ethnic or racial minority, students



1 who may be considered lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or
2 queer (LGBTQ), and any other group that has faced bullying or
3 cyberbullying.

4 SECTION 2. (a) The auditor shall conduct a management and
5 program audit of the department's anti-bullying efforts. The
6 audit shall:

7 (1) Focus on the efficiency of the department's
8 operations, taking into consideration the experiences
9 of members of minority groups that have faced bullying
10 or cyberbullying;

11 (2) Review complaints of bullying or cyberbullying towards
12 any student, parent, teacher, department personnel,
13 contract personnel, or department volunteer made since
14 January 1, 2015. The audit shall also review the
15 findings and any actions taken to address the
16 complaints. The names of any parties in the
17 complaints shall remain confidential and should any
18 records be copied or distributed, all parties listed
19 in the complaints shall be redacted;



- 1 (3) Determine the best practices for the department to
- 2 identify and address the root causes of bullying and
- 3 cyberbullying; and
- 4 (4) Identify any plans, actions, educational workshops, or
- 5 trainings of complex area superintendents that may
- 6 improve understanding of the experiences of
- 7 individuals and groups who have been targets of
- 8 bullying or cyberbullying in order to create a
- 9 respectful and supportive learning environment for all
- 10 students.

11 (b) The audit shall conclude no more than twelve months
12 after its commencement.

13 SECTION 3. The auditor shall submit a report of the
14 auditor's findings and recommendations, including any
15 deficiencies in policies related to bullying and cyberbullying
16 and any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than
17 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
18 2021.

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

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H.B. NO. 382

Report Title:

Department of Education; Bullying and Cyberbullying; Audit

Description:

Requires the Auditor to conduct a management and program audit of the Department of Education's policies relating to bullying and cyberbullying, especially as they apply to students who are members of certain minority groups.

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

