
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INCLUDE MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS IN ITS CURRICULUM AND SUICIDE PREVENTION AS PART OF THE IN-SERVICE TRAINING OF TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS.

1 WHEREAS, suicide is the third leading cause of death among
2 young people ages ten to nineteen; and

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4 WHEREAS, protecting the health and well-being of students
5 is in line with school mandates and an ethical imperative for
6 all professionals working with youth; and

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8 WHEREAS, predicting a crisis is impossible and every school
9 needs to be prepared; and

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11 WHEREAS, on average, one young person dies by suicide every
12 two hours in the United States; and

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14 WHEREAS, for every young person who dies by suicide, an
15 estimated one hundred to two hundred youth make suicide
16 attempts; and

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18 WHEREAS, school staff play a pivotal role in recognizing
19 and referring the student to treatment that may reduce risk;
20 now, therefore,

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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
24 2019, that the Department of Education is requested to require
25 each secondary public school to establish as a condition for
26 graduation, completion of a health education course that:

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28 (1) Instructs students on the multiple dimensions of
29 health, including the relationship between physical
30 health and mental health; and


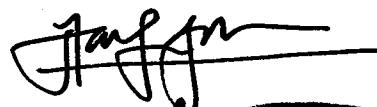
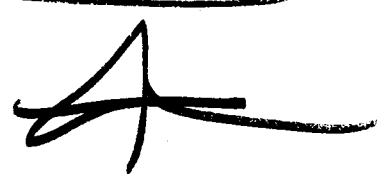


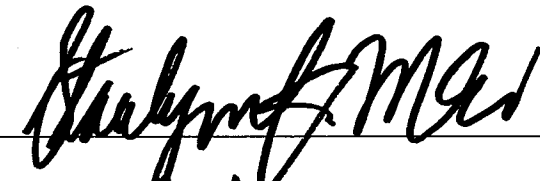


1 (2) Enhances understanding, improves attitudes, and
 2 encourages behaviors that promote good health, well-
 3 being, and human dignity; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
 6 requested to require that the annual in-service training for
 7 teachers and principals include at least two hours of suicide
 8 prevention education and allow the training to be accomplished
 9 through self-review of suicide prevention materials approved by
 10 the Department; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 13 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
 14 Education and Superintendent of Education.
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OFFERED BY:


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