
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DEMENTIA TRAINING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that as part of
2 addressing the present and continuing "silver tsunami" in
3 Hawaii, first responders and investigators from the department
4 of human services' adult protective services program should be
5 adequately trained to identify and interact appropriately with
6 individuals with Alzheimer's and related dementias. Because
7 individuals with Alzheimer's and related dementias may not
8 respond in a manner typically anticipated by first responders
9 and investigators from adult protective services, providing
10 dementia training designed to help identify, interact with, and
11 intervene in cases of suspected abuse or neglect of individuals
12 with Alzheimer's and related dementias will enable these
13 employees to better carry out their duties and responsibilities.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by adding a new section to part XVIII to be
16 appropriately designated and to read as follows:



1 "§321- First responders; dementia training (a) The
2 department of health shall develop and provide dementia training
3 for first responders. The training required under this section
4 shall include but not be limited to:

5 (1) Recognizing the key signs of Alzheimer's and related
6 dementias;

7 (2) Strategies for assessing cognition;

8 (3) Best practices for interacting with persons living
9 with Alzheimer's and related dementias; and

10 (4) Strategies to best identify and intervene in
11 situations where persons with Alzheimer's and related
12 dementias may be at particular risk of abuse of
13 neglect.

14 (b) The department may set the standards and frequency for
15 the dementia training and may coordinate as necessary with all
16 public and private entities and agencies responsible for
17 services provided by first responders to provide the training
18 required under this section.

19 (c) The department may utilize existing educational and
20 training resources available in the public and private sectors
21 when developing the training required under this section.



1 (d) As used in this section, "first responders" includes
2 firefighters, emergency medical technicians, mobile intensive
3 care technicians, emergency management workers, police officers,
4 and state law enforcement officers."

5 SECTION 3. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by adding a new section to part X to be appropriately
7 designated and to read as follows:

8 "§346- Adult protective services investigators;
9 dementia training (a) The department shall develop and provide
10 dementia training for investigators in the department's adult
11 protective services program. The training required under this
12 section shall include but not be limited to:

- 13 (1) Recognizing the key signs of Alzheimer's and related
14 dementias;
15 (2) Strategies for assessing cognition;
16 (3) Best practices for interacting with persons living
17 with Alzheimer's and related dementias; and
18 (4) Strategies to best identify and intervene in
19 situations where persons with Alzheimer's and related
20 dementias may be at particular risk of abuse and
21 neglect.



1 (b) The department may set the standards and frequency for
2 the dementia training and may coordinate as necessary with other
3 state agencies to provide the training required under this
4 section.

5 (c) The department may utilize existing educational and
6 training resources available in the public and private sectors
7 when developing the training required under this section."

8 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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H.B. NO. 2455

Report Title:

Dementia Training; Alzheimer's and Related Dementias; First Responders; Adult Protective Services Investigators

Description:

Requires the departments of health and human services to develop and provide dementia training to first responders and investigators from DHS's adult protective services program.

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