
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to increase
2 awareness and knowledge of, and promote education on, mental
3 health problems by requiring public safety personnel in the
4 district and family courts whose duties include proceedings for
5 restraining or protective orders to receive an eight-hour
6 training on mental health first aid triennially.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 353C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
9 and to read as follows:

10 "§353C- Mental health first aid training. (a) The
11 department shall establish a mental health first aid training
12 program for public safety personnel in the district and family
13 courts whose duties include proceedings for restraining or
14 protective orders. The program shall include a mandatory eight-
15 hour interactive training course triennially that teaches the
16 skills necessary to assist a person who is developing or has



1 developed a mental health disorder or mental health crisis, and
2 to de-escalate crisis situations as needed.

3 (b) The mandatory interactive training shall instruct
4 personnel to, at minimum:

5 (1) Identify signs of mental health crises, illness, and
6 instability;

7 (2) Identify signs of behavioral and psychological
8 patterns of mental health disorders;

9 (3) Provide initial assistance to persons with mental
10 health disorders or mental health crises;

11 (4) Guide individuals requiring assistance toward
12 appropriate professional help;

13 (5) Provide comfort to persons experiencing mental health
14 disorders or mental health crises;

15 (6) Assist in preventing a mental health disorder from
16 deteriorating into a more serious condition that may
17 lead to more costly interventions and treatments;

18 (7) Provide information on and referral to outreach
19 workers who are trained to assist persons with mental
20 health disorders and mental health crises; and

21 (8) Promote healing, recovery, and good mental health."



- 1 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
- 2 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

PSD; Mental Health First Aid Training; Mental Health Disorders;
Mental Health Crises

Description:

Requires PSD to establish a mental health first aid training program that provides mandatory eight-hour sessions triennially for public safety personnel in the district and family courts whose duties include proceedings for restraining or protective orders. (Proposed HD1)

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