
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH.

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

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. Chapter 353C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
3 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
4 and to read as follows:

5 "§353C- Mental health first aid training. (a) The
6 judiciary shall establish a mental health first aid training
7 program for personnel in the district and family courts whose
8 duties include proceedings for restraining or protective orders.
9 The program shall include a mandatory eight-hour interactive
10 training course triennially that teaches the skills necessary to
11 assist a person who is developing or has developed a mental
12 health disorder or mental health crisis, and to de-escalate
13 crisis situations as needed.

14 (b) The mandatory interactive training shall instruct
15 personnel to, at minimum:

16 (1) Identify signs of mental health crises, illness, and
17 instability;



- 1 (2) Identify signs of behavioral and psychological
- 2 patterns of mental health disorders;
- 3 (3) Provide initial assistance to persons with mental
- 4 health disorders or mental health crises;
- 5 (4) Guide individuals requiring assistance toward
- 6 appropriate professional help;
- 7 (5) Provide comfort to persons experiencing mental health
- 8 disorders or mental health crises;
- 9 (6) Assist in preventing a mental health disorder from
- 10 deteriorating into a more serious condition that may
- 11 lead to more costly interventions and treatments;
- 12 (7) Provide information on and referral to outreach
- 13 workers who are trained to assist persons with mental
- 14 health disorders and mental health crises; and
- 15 (8) Promote healing, recovery, and good mental health."

PART II

17 SECTION 2. (a) The director of health shall establish an

18 emergency examination and hospitalization subsidy program within

19 the department of health for the purpose of recruiting,

20 retaining, and subsidizing the salaries of licensed physicians



1 practicing psychiatry and clinical psychologists employed by
2 licensed psychiatric facilities.

3 (b) The director of health shall adopt rules pursuant to
4 chapter 91 necessary for the purposes of this section.

5 (c) The director of health shall submit a report of its
6 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
7 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
8 to the convening of the regular session of 2021 on the status of
9 the emergency examination and hospitalization subsidy program.

10 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
13 the emergency examination and hospitalization subsidy program.

14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
15 health for the purposes of this Act.

16 PART III

17 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
19 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



Report Title:

Mental Health First Aid Training; Judiciary; Subsidy Program;
DOH; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the judiciary to establish a mental health first aid training program that provides mandatory eight-hour sessions triennially for personnel in the district and family courts whose duties include proceedings for restraining or protective orders. Requires the director of health to establish an emergency examination and hospitalization subsidy program for the purpose of recruiting, retaining, and subsidizing the salaries of certain psychiatrists and psychologists. Appropriates funds. (Proposed HD1)

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