

JAN 21 2022

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

---

RELATING TO YOUTH CRISIS CENTERS.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that instances of crisis  
2       occurring amongst the State's most vulnerable youth are  
3       increasing, especially in communities having a high incidence of  
4       poverty; homelessness; crime; school truancy; school  
5       suspensions; runaways; physical and mental abuse; illegal drug  
6       use; juvenile crime; and crimes against youth, including sex  
7       trafficking. The legislature further finds that these  
8       communities lack sufficient resources and services to respond to  
9       the immediate needs of the State's youth at risk. The  
10      legislature acknowledges that there is also a lack of  
11      collaboration amongst various state agencies to provide  
12      comprehensive, data-based services to adequately identify the  
13      needs and conditions of crises experienced by the State's youth.

14      The legislature believes that it is necessary to ensure  
15      focused attention on the issues affecting the State's youth at  
16      risk, and provide a more proactive approach to mitigate the  
17      effects of trauma and abuse experienced by these youth, by more



1 directly addressing their needs. The legislature also believes  
2 that establishing a framework of institutionalized youth crisis  
3 centers that may be sustained, even in the absence of grant  
4 funding and contracted services, will disrupt the school-to-  
5 prison pipeline, encourage the continuation of education,  
6 provide safer environments for the State's youth, and ensure  
7 continued services towards individual achievement.

8 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish the  
9 youth crisis center branch of the office of youth services, to  
10 be headed by the youth crisis center branch administrator.

11 SECTION 2. Section 352D-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended by adding two new definitions to be appropriately  
13 inserted and to read as follows:

14 "Administrator" means the administrator of the branch.

15 "Branch" means the youth crisis center branch of the office  
16 of youth services."

17 SECTION 3. Chapter 352D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
18 amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately  
19 designated and to read as follows:



1        "§352D- Youth crisis center branch; established;  
2 regional centers. (a) There is established within the office  
3 of youth services the youth crisis center branch.

4        (b) The branch may establish regional youth crisis centers  
5 for the provision of services and temporary shelter to youth at  
6 risk and youth in need of services; provided that the provision  
7 of temporary shelter shall not exceed thirty days per person.

8        (c) The branch may contract with individual service  
9 providers as the branch deems appropriate; provided that the  
10 office shall maintain operational oversight of each youth crisis  
11 center and the provision of youth services.

12        (d) The primary objective of each regional youth crisis  
13 center established pursuant to this section shall be to address  
14 the immediate safety and service needs of youth at risk.

15        (e) The objectives of the branch shall be to:

16        (1) Provide immediate temporary shelter for youth at risk  
17 during times of crisis;

18        (2) Develop an improved system of intake, assessment, and  
19 follow-up for youth at risk;

20        (3) Develop individualized service plans for each youth at  
21 risk serviced by the branch; and



1        (4) Provide a wider range of informal dispositions for  
2        youth at risk, including alternatives to the juvenile  
3        justice and foster care systems.

4        (f) The branch may provide the following services and  
5        programs:

6        (1) Mental health services and programs;

7        (2) Substance abuse treatment programs;

8        (3) Crisis shelters for homeless youth and victims of  
9        human and sex trafficking;

10       (4) Vocational training;

11       (5) Group homes;

12       (6) Day treatment programs;

13       (7) Aftercare;

14       (8) Individual and family counseling services;

15       (9) Educational services; and

16       (10) Any other services and programs that may be required  
17       to meet the needs of youth at risk.

18       (g) All youth at risk shall be eligible for services and  
19       programs provided by each youth crisis center established  
20       pursuant to this section.



1        (h) The administrator shall submit an annual report to the  
2 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
3 each regular session. The report shall include:

4        (1) A summary of the services or programs provided  
5 pursuant to this section;

6        (2) The number of youths receiving each service or  
7 participating in each program provided pursuant to  
8 this section;

9        (3) The results of each service and program provided  
10 pursuant to this section; and

11       (4) Any other findings and recommendations, including  
12 proposed legislation and resource allocations  
13 necessary to improve the effectiveness of each service  
14 and program provided pursuant to this section.

15       **§352D-       Administrator; appointment; powers and duties.**

16 The youth crisis center of the office of youth services shall be  
17 headed by an administrator who shall be appointed by the  
18 governor without regard to chapter 76. The administrator may  
19 appoint staff without regard to chapter 76."

20       SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                      or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the  
2 office of youth services to establish the youth crisis center  
3 branch, including the establishment of one full-time equivalent  
4 (1.0 FTE) administrator position and two full-time equivalent  
5 (2.0 FTE) program specialist positions.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
7 youth services for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

10  
INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 2481

**Report Title:**

Office of Youth Services; Youth Crisis Center Branch;  
Administrator; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the Youth Crisis Center Branch of the Office of Youth Services and the position of Administrator of the Youth Crisis Branch of the Office of Youth Services. Appropriates moneys.

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

