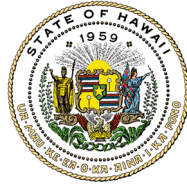


DAVID Y. IGE
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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1415
RELATED TO THREAT ASSESSMENT

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON PANDEMIC & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

BY

KEVIN L. BAGGS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAWAI'I STATE FUSION CENTER

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Chair Representative Linda Ichiyama and Vice Chair Representative Staceylynn K.M. Eli and members of the Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness Committee.

I am Kevin L. Baggs, Executive Director, Hawai'i State Fusion Center (HSFC). The HSFC **SUPPORTS** this Bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

HB1415 will help prevent violence statewide by providing assistance to agencies who want to develop threat assessment teams. These teams are meant to be multidisciplinary. Their members may include mental health professionals, educators, psychologists, health care providers, social workers, substance abuse counselors, disability service providers, and other individuals depending on the agency.

These threat assessment teams all have different information and perspectives that can help find solutions to manage threats through intervention that can ultimately help individuals and make our community safer. HB1415 will help HSFC provide training and coordination among agencies that are developing threat assessment teams. HB1415 also provides an organized, secure, and legal means for the teams to share information as they desire across disciplines. The ultimate goal is to prevent violence.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in SUPPORT of HB1415.

Kevin L. Baggs, Executive Director, HSFC, kevin.l.baggs@hawaii.gov.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/01/2022

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 309 Via Videoconference

Committee: House Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1415 RELATING TO THREAT ASSESSMENT.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a program within the Hawaii State Fusion Center to train, establish, and operate threat assessment teams, including for educational institutions. Appropriates moneys.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1415.

Threat assessment is a problem-solving approach to violence prevention that involves assessment and intervention with both students and adults who have threatened violence in some way. Several major and authoritative publications such as *Enhancing School Safety Using a Threat Assessment Model* and the *Final Report of the Federal Commission on School Safety* have identified actionable steps and best practices in establishing a threat assessment program.

The development and establishment of a threat assessment program in the Department has been a priority of the Safety, Security, and Emergency Preparedness Branch. The branch has been working and coordinating closely with both the Hawaii Office of Homeland Security, Hawaii State Fusion Center, and other agencies in developing a threat assessment program that would prevent targeted violence in our schools. These partnerships have been invaluable. Developing and establishing a threat assessment program ensures the Department is meeting national school safety and security standards.

The Department recommends and a requests a few amendments. First, defining and classifying threats into "risk classification" levels (e.g., low, medium, high) would help

determine whether threats are either transient or substantive. Defining the levels would help the Department determine the appropriate actions such as when to request law enforcement involvement. Secondly, the bill should provide the Department the authority to vet its own teams at all levels with the ability to consult with the Hawaii State Fusion Center as necessary. Finally, the bill should indicate factors that may disqualify or recuse personnel from becoming threat assessment team members.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PANDEMIC & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1415

February 1, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Via Videoconference

RELATING TO THREAT ASSESSMENT

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on House Bill (H.B.) No. 1415.

H.B. No. 1415 amends Chapter 128A, HRS, by establishing a program within the Hawai'i State Fusion Center to train, establish, and operate threat assessment teams, including for educational institutions for the purpose of addressing violence and threats of violence. This bill also appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for FY 23 for the threat assessment team program. Additionally, this bill shall take effect upon its approval, provided that the appropriation shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

B&F notes that the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

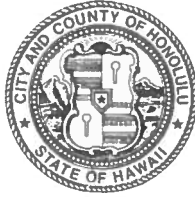
- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu.org



RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

RADE K. VANIC
INTERIM CHIEF

OUR REFERENCE DV-TA

February 1, 2022

The Honorable Linda Ichiyama, Chair
and Members
Committee on Pandemic and Disaster
Preparedness
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, 309
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ichiyama and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 1415, Relating to Threat Assessment

I am Deric Valoroso, Captain of the Major Events Division, Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports the passage of House Bill No. 1415, Relating to Threat Assessment.

This bill supports the efforts of the Hawaii State Fusion Center with assessing potential threats through vetted educational agency liaisons. Information sharing will only reinforce the cooperative efforts between law enforcement and educational agencies to operate as one team working toward a common goal of identifying threats via the Hawaii State Fusion Center.

The HPD stands in firm support of House Bill No. 1415, Relating to Threat Assessment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Sincerely,


DERIC VALOROSO, Captain
Major Events Division

APPROVED:


RADE K. VANIC
Interim Chief of Police