

JAN 20 2023

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CORRECTIONS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a significant  
2 proportion of the individuals in the corrections and  
3 rehabilitation system have experienced serious trauma during  
4 their lifetimes.

5           The legislature further finds when corrections  
6 professionals are trained to properly assess and interact with  
7 persons who have experienced trauma, those professionals are  
8 better able to engage those individuals. As a result, these  
9 individuals are more likely to connect with vital services, less  
10 likely to commit disciplinary infractions, and experience  
11 improved rehabilitation and reduced rates of recidivism.

12           The legislature further finds that the establishment of a  
13 level I trauma-informed certification program may help to ensure  
14 that the State's corrections professionals are properly trained  
15 in trauma-informed care. Award of a program certificate would  
16 require the completion of three courses, including a basic  
17 trauma-informed care course for adult corrections officers,



1 especially those assigned to the women's community correctional  
2 facility. The trauma-informed care course would be based on an  
3 existing course implemented by windward community college for  
4 mental health technicians at Hawaii state hospital, which has  
5 already been proven successful.

6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys to  
7 windward community college to support a level I trauma-informed  
8 certification program for adult corrections officers.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much  
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 to support  
12 a trauma-informed certification program for adult corrections  
13 officers at windward community college; provided that:

- 14 (1) Courses shall be offered in eight-week or sixteen-week  
15 long blocks during the 2023-2024 academic year;
- 16 (2) Eligible courses shall be offered to adult corrections  
17 officers employed by the department of public safety  
18 at no cost to the adult corrections officers;
- 19 (3) The certificate shall require completion of a level I  
20 trauma-informed care course designed for adult  
21 corrections officers; and



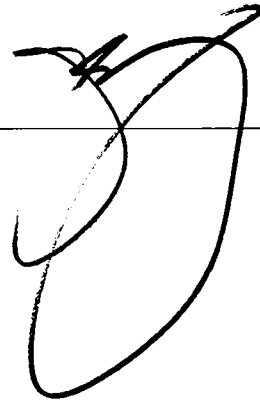
1 (4) Moneys appropriated may be used for instructor costs,  
2 tuition, supplies, books, any necessary class  
3 materials, speaker fees, travel for instructors to  
4 corrections facilities to provide skills-building  
5 workshops, and other expenses.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the university of  
7 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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# S.B. NO. 712

**Report Title:**

Adult Corrections Officers; UH; Windward Community College;  
Trauma-informed Certification Program; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates moneys to support a trauma-informed certification program for adult corrections officers at the Windward Community College campus of the University of Hawaii. Requires the curriculum to include a level I trauma-informed care course designed for adult corrections officers.

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

