
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that too many children
2 are involved with the State's criminal justice system. Between
3 October 2020 and December 2020, four hundred fifty-six youth
4 were arrested in the State. Eighty-five of the arrested youth
5 were thirteen years of age or younger. The legislature
6 recognizes that such early involvement with the criminal justice
7 system can have long-term consequences, including educational,
8 professional, and financial consequences, that are difficult for
9 young people to escape.

10 The legislature also finds that Native Hawaiians, Pacific
11 Islanders, and other people of color are overrepresented in the
12 State's juvenile justice system. In 2022, Native Hawaiian and
13 Pacific Islander youth comprised forty-eight per cent of the
14 youth who were arrested and sixty-three per cent of those who
15 were placed in a detention facility. Intergenerational trauma,
16 cultural disconnection, homelessness, and other factors can
17 drive and contribute to juvenile offending. The legislature



1 believes that addressing these factors requires a team- and
2 community-based approach that addresses the underlying causes of
3 juvenile crime.

4 The legislature recognizes that the State has an existing
5 system of collaborative management programs, including
6 government- and privately-operated programs, to assist at-risk
7 and court-involved youth. However, the arrest data for youth
8 under the age of eighteen, especially Native Hawaiian and
9 Pacific Islander youth, suggests that there are still unmet
10 needs.

11 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
12 department of human services' office of youth services to
13 develop and implement a program, taking into account existing
14 support programs, available data, and stakeholder input, to
15 provide individualized service and support teams to assist
16 at-risk or court-involved youth.

17 SECTION 2. Chapter 352D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
19 and to read as follows:

20 "§352D-_____ Individualized service and support teams. (a)

21 The office of youth services shall develop a program to provide



1 an individualized service and support team to assist each
2 at-risk or court-involved youth who chooses to participate and
3 is referred to the program by a:

- 4 (1) Law enforcement agency;
- 5 (2) Prosecutor's office;
- 6 (3) School;
- 7 (4) Family resource center;
- 8 (5) Child advocacy center; or
- 9 (6) Government agency.

10 (b) The program's goal shall be to provide culturally
11 responsive, community-based assessments, services, and referrals
12 to address the factors that contribute to juvenile crimes.

13 (c) In developing the program, the office of youth
14 services shall consider:

- 15 (1) Programs and services currently offered to at-risk and
16 court-involved youth in Hawaii by federal, state, and
17 county agencies; contracted providers; and private
18 organizations, including programs and services
19 provided by youth services centers established
20 pursuant to sections 352D-7 and 352D-7.5;

21 (2) Input from:



1 (A) Community-based organizations that work with
2 at-risk and court-involved youth, including
3 organizations that focus on Native Hawaiian and
4 Pacific Islander youth;

5 (B) Homeless service providers;

6 (C) Educators and schools; and

7 (D) Any other stakeholders identified by the office;
8 and

9 (3) Data provided by the juvenile justice information
10 system.

11 (d) To the extent possible, the office shall avoid
12 duplicating the efforts of the programs considered pursuant to
13 subsection (c)(1) but shall identify and address any unmet needs
14 and gaps in services.

15 (e) The office shall pursue any available grants,
16 including private and government grants, to help fund the
17 development of the program.

18 (f) The department of human services shall adopt rules
19 pursuant to chapter 91, including rules governing data sharing
20 and data privacy, as necessary for the development of the
21 program.



1 (g) The executive director shall include any findings and
2 recommendations regarding the program, including any proposed
3 legislation, in the annual report submitted to the legislature
4 pursuant to section 352D-4."

5 SECTION 3. Section 352D-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 "**§352D-4 Establishment; purpose.** There is established
8 within the department of human services for administrative
9 purposes only the office of youth services. The office of youth
10 services is established to provide services and programs for
11 youth at risk under one umbrella agency in order to facilitate
12 optimum service delivery, to prevent delinquency, and to reduce
13 the incidence of recidivism among juveniles through the
14 provision of prevention, rehabilitation, and treatment services.
15 The office shall also be responsible for program planning and
16 development, intake/assessment, oversight, as well as
17 consultation, technical assistance, and staff training relating
18 to the delivery of services.

19 The office shall provide a continuum of services as
20 follows:



- 1 (1) An integrated intake/assessment and case management
2 system;
- 3 (2) The necessary educational, vocational, social
4 counseling and mental health services; provided that
5 the department of education shall be the only provider
6 of standards-based education services for all youth at
7 risk and young adults identified with special
8 education needs or actively receiving special
9 education services, in accordance with the Individuals
10 with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et
11 seq.) and all applicable federal and state educational
12 requirements;
- 13 (3) Community-based shelter and residential facilities;
- 14 (4) Oversight of youth services; ~~and~~
- 15 (5) Individualized service and support teams pursuant to
16 section 352D- ; and
- 17 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) Other programs that encourage the development of
18 positive self-images and useful skills in youth.
- 19 The executive director of the office of youth services
20 shall submit annual reports to the legislature no later than
21 twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session,



1 reporting the services or programs funded pursuant to this
2 section, the number of youth served by each service or program,
3 and the results of the services or programs funded.

4 To this end, on July 1, 1991, this office shall assume the
5 responsibilities for juvenile corrections functions, which were
6 temporarily placed in the department of corrections pursuant to
7 Act 338, Session Laws of Hawaii 1987. These functions shall
8 include but not be limited to all responsibilities, under
9 chapter 352, for the Hawaii youth correctional facilities."

10 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the
13 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
14 2026-2027 for the office of youth services to develop and
15 implement a program offering individualized service and support
16 teams to assist at-risk and court-involved youth.

17 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
18 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
2 provided that section 4 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,
3 2025.

4

INTRODUCED BY:


JAN 13 2025



H.B. NO. 60

Report Title:

DHS; Office of Youth Services; Juvenile Justice; Appropriation

Description:

Requires and appropriates moneys for the Department of Human Services' Office of Youth Services to develop and implement a program offering individualized service and support teams to assist at-risk and court-involved youth.

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

