H.B. NO. 621

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that state funding for 2 school security is essential to ensure the safety and well-being 3 of students, teachers, and staff. By investing in security 4 measures, the State can create safer learning environments that 5 promote academic achievement and reduce anxiety. Ultimately, 6 state funding for school security is a proactive step to protect 7 our schools and ensure that students can focus on learning 8 without fear.

9 The legislature further finds that funding is critically 10 needed for school safety measures, including active threat 11 response training, hazardous material disposal contracts, school 12 safety equipment, threat assessment and reporting, and fire 13 safety.

14 The department of education requires the following 15 positions to implement and maintain school safety measures:

16 17 Targeted violence prevention and threat assessment program manager, who will:



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1		(A)	Create and execute the statewide behavior threat
2			assessment and management framework to align with
3			the Hawaii targeted violence prevention strategy
4			and implementation plan and to establish
5			guidelines, protocols, and procedures across all
6			schools; and
7		(B)	Liaison with the office of homeland security,
8			university of Hawaii, threat team Hawaii,
9			forensic psychology experts, and other
10			organizations; and
11	(2)	Fire	safety and security technology program manager,
12		who	will:
13		(A)	Be responsible for planning, executing, and
14			delivering fire safety and security technological
15			initiatives and programs across the department;
16		(B)	Ensure schools meet fire safety standards to pass
17			annual fire safety inspections; and
18		(C)	Assist schools with the installation and
19			maintenance of their fire alarm systems.



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1 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the department of education for positions to implement and maintain 2 3 school safety measures. 4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general 5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$15,800,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and 6 7 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the following positions to implement and 8 9 maintain school safety measures: 10 (1) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) targeted violence 11 prevention and threat assessment program manager; and One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) fire safety and 12 (2)13 security technology program manager. 14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department 15 of education for the purposes of this Act. 16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 1 7 2025



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Report Title:

DOE; School Safety, Positions; Appropriation

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Description:

Appropriates funds to the Department of Education for positions to implement and maintain school safety measures.

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