

ACT 53

H.B. NO. 1329

A Bill for an Act Relating to Education.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 2022, there were fifty-one school shootings nationwide that resulted in injuries or deaths. These incidents included situations where a firearm was discharged and an individual other than a suspect or perpetrator was wounded by a bullet. Nationally, school shooting incidents have also occurred on K-12 school property, on a school bus, while school was in session, and during a school-sponsored event. The second deadliest K-12 shooting in United States history occurred in 2022.

The legislature also finds that, while the department of education requires annual fire drills, no students have perished in school fires since 1958. The legislature believes that training for school staff should reflect what is currently happening in the country.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Require the department of education to work with certain organizations to develop and implement an active shooter training program in all public and charter schools; and
- (2) Provide that public and charter school students may decline to participate in any active shooter training program developed by the department.

SECTION 2. The department of education shall work with the Hawaii State Teachers Association, Hawaii Government Employees Association, and United Public Workers to develop and implement an active shooter training program in all public and charter schools; provided that public and charter school students may decline to participate in active shooter training.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 2, 2023.)