

ACT 89

H.B. NO. 948

A Bill for an Act Relating to Child and Adolescent Mental Health.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a need to improve mental health crisis intervention for at-risk youths in the community by expanding existing crisis response services to provide trauma-informed engagement within the system and individual training in trauma-informed care. These expanded services may reduce the risk of harm to youths; promote safety for youths in home, school, and community settings; reduce the use of emergency facilities, acute psychiatric hospitals, and other out-of-home placements for youths; increase supports available to youths and families to maintain placement and improve quality of life; and provide trauma-informed care and ongoing support to youths and families in the community.

The purpose of this Act is to establish, and appropriate funds for, a child and adolescent crisis mobile outreach team pilot program to provide additional support and expansion of services for existing crisis response services, with one crisis mobile outreach team to be located on Oahu and one crisis mobile outreach team to be located at a site on a neighbor island, as determined by the department of health.

SECTION 2. (a) There is established a child and adolescent crisis mobile outreach team pilot program within the child and adolescent mental health division of the department of health to expand and support existing crisis response services and programs for at-risk youths. One crisis mobile outreach team shall be located on Oahu, and one crisis mobile outreach team shall be located at a site on a neighbor island. The department of health shall determine the most appropriate site on a neighbor island for the crisis mobile outreach team. The pilot program shall begin on January 1, 2024.

(b) The child and adolescent crisis mobile outreach team pilot program shall provide, to the extent practicable with available resources, the following services to children and adolescents:

- (1) Crisis prevention with community collaboration and community program development;
- (2) Face-to-face intervention within one hour of a request for intervention;

- (3) Crisis de-escalation and assessment; and
- (4) Stabilization for not more than eight weeks, including:
  - (A) Connecting youths to community supports and services;
  - (B) In-home clinical support for youths and families;
  - (C) Connection with higher level support if determined necessary by the crisis mobile outreach team; and
  - (D) Collaboration with community partners and other state agencies.
- (c) The child and adolescent mental health division of the department of health shall submit a report to the legislature, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2025, with findings and recommendations arising from the child and adolescent crisis mobile outreach team pilot program, including any proposed legislation and a recommendation as to whether the pilot program should be extended.
- (d) The child and adolescent crisis mobile outreach team pilot program shall end on December 31, 2025.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to establish a crisis mobile outreach team pilot program to expand existing crisis response services and for the hiring and training of mental health professionals with trauma-informed training and experience working with youth; provided that the sums appropriated shall be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$1,750,000 for one crisis mobile outreach team to be located on Oahu; and
- (2) \$1,750,000 for one crisis mobile outreach team to be located at a site on a neighbor island; provided further that the site shall be determined by the department of health.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of health for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the appropriations contained in H.B. No. 300, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1,<sup>1</sup> will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 to be exceeded by \$1,063,767,367 or 10 per cent. In addition, the appropriations contained in this Act will cause the general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 to be further exceeded by \$3,500,000 or 1 per cent. The combined total amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 to be exceeded by \$1,067,267,367 or 11 per cent. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

- (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to serve the public interest; and
- (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs addressed by this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(Approved June 14, 2023.)

**Note**

1. Act 164.