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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that over four thousand  
2 youths take their lives annually in the United States, making  
3 suicide the third leading cause of death of persons between the  
4 ages of ten and twenty-four.

5           In Hawaii, suicide is the second leading cause of death  
6 among persons who are fifteen to twenty-four years old. In  
7 2009, one out of every eight high school students reported  
8 having attempted suicide within the twelve-month period before  
9 completing a nationwide behavioral risk survey. The rate of  
10 attempted suicides for high school students is more than double  
11 the national average. Males are more likely than females to  
12 commit suicide, and native Hawaiian youths are the ethnic group  
13 most likely to attempt or commit suicide.

14           According to the department of education, budget cuts have  
15 resulted in the elimination of positions that supported suicide  
16 prevention community networking in schools. Restoration of two  
17 positions is needed to assist with suicide prevention services  
18 within the department.



1           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the  
2 restoration of a peer education program resource teacher and a  
3 full time clerk-typist to support suicide prevention services  
4 within the department of education.

5           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$120,000 or so much  
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and the  
8 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
9 2012-2013 for the restoration of a peer education program  
10 resource teacher and a full time clerk-typist to support suicide  
11 prevention services within the department of education.

12           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
13 of education for the purposes of this Act.

14           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

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**Report Title:**

Suicide Prevention; Keiki Caucus; Department of Education;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Makes an appropriation to the department of education for two positions to support suicide prevention services: a peer education program resource teacher and a full time clerk-typist.  
(SD1)

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