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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that teaching water  
2 safety at a young age is key to preventing drownings. Ocean  
3 safety and stewardship courses also help to nurture a sense of  
4 responsibility and respect for the coastal environment.

5           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the  
6 department of education to establish and administer an ocean  
7 safety and stewardship education program for all fourth grade  
8 public school students.

9           SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended by adding a new section to subpart C of part II to be  
11 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

12           "§302A-       Ocean safety and stewardship education. (a)  
13 The department shall establish and administer an ocean safety  
14 and stewardship education program to be conducted at each  
15 elementary public school or a beach or another appropriate  
16 location for students in the fourth grade; provided that the  
17 department may provide an opt-out process for elementary public



1 schools that have other comparable programs or conduct water  
2 safety training at a different grade level.

3 (b) The department may consult or contract with private  
4 organizations or instructors for the purposes of this section."

5 SECTION 3. Within one hundred eighty days of the effective  
6 date of this Act, the department of education shall implement  
7 the ocean safety and stewardship education program as required  
8 by section 2 of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

DOE; Ocean Safety and Stewardship Education

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Education to establish and administer an ocean safety and stewardship education program for all fourth grade public school students. Effective 1/1/2050. (HD1)

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

