

SR-8

Submitted on: 3/8/2020 10:25:26 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Younghi Overly	Testifying for AAUW of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee,

Members of AAUW of Hawaii are grateful for this opportunity to testify in support of SCR7/SR8, which would require Hawaii DOE to submit a report on reported incidents of alleged bullying and harassment.

Bullying is a serious problem for the students in Hawaii. According to the CDC 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 22.6% of middle school students and 14.6% of high school students in Hawaii were cyber-bullied, 40% of middle school students and 18.4% of high school students were bullied on school property, 23.1% of middle school students and 16% of high school students seriously considered suicide, and 12.4% of middle school students and 10% of high school students attempted suicide during past 12 months of the survey.^[1] Youth who report frequently bullying others and youth who report being frequently bullied is at increased risk for suicide; youth who report both bullying others and being bullied have the highest risk for suicide.^[2]

Three out of eight groups of students, who participated in AAUW Honolulu-Ceeds of Peace-Women’s Fund of Hawaii’s Girls Talk Back program, identified bullying as most serious problem they wanted to work on. While some teachers try to address the problem, bullying continues; some teachers even shrug it off or dismiss it saying “everyone goes through bullying”.

Hawaii DOE was found non-compliant with federal Title IX in 2015, entered a voluntary resolution agreement with the US DOE Office of Civil Rights^[3], and revised Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapters 8-19 and 8-89 to include a grievance procedure to address conduct towards students based on procedure to address conduct towards students based on protected classes which is being implemented starting 2019-2020 school year. Initial report on new chapters 8-19 and 8-89 will provide valuable input for future legislation.^[4]

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawaii is a state-wide organization made up of six branches (Hilo, Honolulu, Kauai, Kona, Maui, and Windward Oahu) and includes just over 650 active members with over 3800 supporters

statewide. As advocates for gender equity, AAUW of Hawaii promotes the economic, social, and physical well-being of all persons.

Please pass this important measure to end bullying. Mahalo.

[1] <https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Results.aspx?>

[2] <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/bullying-suicide-translation-final-a.pdf>

[3] <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/investigations/more/10115003-a.pdf>

[4] http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/Civil%20Rights/OCR_RAstatus.pdf

SR-8

Submitted on: 3/8/2020 10:28:15 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Testifying for Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Women’s Coalition writes in support of SCR7/SR8, which would require Hawaii DOE to submit a report on reported incidents of alleged bullying and harassment.

Bullying is a serious problem for the students in Hawaii. According to the CDC 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 22.6% of middle school students and 14.6% of high school students in Hawaii were cyber-bullied, 40% of middle school students and 18.4% of high school students were bullied on school property, 23.1% of middle school students and 16% of high school students seriously considered suicide, and 12.4% of middle school students and 10% of high school students attempted suicide during past 12 months of the survey.^[1] Youth who report frequently bullying others and youth who report being frequently bullied is at increased risk for suicide; youth who report both bullying others and being bullied have the highest risk for suicide.^[2]

According to 2014 USDOE OCR’s Hawaii state-wide survey of 66.07% or 69,905 Hawaii DOE students, over half of those who indicated that they were bullied or harassed reported the incident to a teacher or other school employee; in 14.6% of cases where the incident was reported, the school took no action in response; and over half of those who reported the initial incident to a school official indicated that they were bullied or harassed again. Hawaii DOE was found non-compliant with federal Title IX in 2015, entered a voluntary resolution agreement with the US DOE Office of Civil Rights^[3], and revised Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapters 8-19 and 8-89 to include a grievance procedure to address conduct towards students based on procedure to address conduct towards students based on protected classes which is being implemented starting 2019-2020 school year. Initial report on new chapters 8-19 and 8-89 will provide valuable input for future legislation.^[4]

Thank you for your support for this important measure to protect our keiki.

Sincerely,

Hawaii Women’s Coalition

[1] <https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Results.aspx?>

[2] <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/bullying-suicide-translation-final-a.pdf>

[3] <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/investigations/more/10115003-a.pdf>

[4] http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/Civil%20Rights/OCR_RAstatus.pdf

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Rick Collins, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hawaii

Big Island Substance Abuse Council

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Collins Consulting, LLC

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action Network

Hawaii Health & Harm

Reduction Center

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Kokua Ohana Aloha (KOA)

Maui Youth and Family Services

Na Pu'uwai Molokai Native

Hawaiian Health Care Systems

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

PHOCUSED

PFLAG – Kona Big Island

Planned Parenthood of the

Great Northwest and Hawaiian Islands

Residential Youth Services

& Empowerment (RYSE)

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community Center

The Catalyst Group

March 8, 2020

To: Senator Michelle Kidani Chair
And members of the Committee on Education

Testimony in Support of SCR 7/SR 8 Requesting the Department of Education to Submit a Report to the Legislature on the Implementation of the Amended Chapters 19 and 89 of Title 8, Hawaii Administrative Rules.

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations supports Testimony in Support of SCR 7/SR 8 Requesting the Department of Education to Submit a Report to the Legislature on the Implementation of the Amended Chapters 19 and 89 of Title 8, Hawaii Administrative Rules.

For 9 out of the past 13 years, bullying has been one of the top concerns of the youth who participate in the annual Children and Youth Summit at the State Capitol each October. They tell us that teachers and other school staff do not respond effectively when they witness bullying or bullying is reported by students.

As one concerned grandparent told me, “We are teaching our granddaughter about the issue. Last year she reported 3 kids to teacher because they were taunting a home less girl...{My granddaughter said the teacher just told them not to do again...the kids got nothing out of it.”

According to the Hawaii Youth Behavioral Risk Survey, Hawaii has a low rate of youth violence in almost every area except bullying. The number of youth who have stated that they were afraid to go to school or have missed school due to bullying is much higher than the national average. 22.6% of middle school students in Hawaii were cyber-bullied, 40% were bullied on school property, 23.1% seriously considered suicide, and 12.4% attempted suicide during past 12 months (Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2017)

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith F. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

SR-8

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 4:28:57 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Elento	Individual	Comments	Yes

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of **SCR7 / SR8** --

To include the **Hawaii Civil Rights Commission** in the distribution of the indicated Report to Legislature because of the Commission's interest and/or jurisdiction of students discriminated against due to disability and sex/gender, as referenced in **HAR 8-89 (HRS 368-3, HRS 368D)**. HB2420 and SB2244 refer to the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission's jurisdiction, which would include students.

Linda Elento, Constituent