

MAR 13 2015

S.R. NO. 114

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR TO CONVENE A BULLYING
PREVENTION TASK FORCE.

1 WHEREAS, all students have the right to fully participate
2 in the educational process free from bullying, including
3 cyberbullying; and
4

5 WHEREAS, a safe and civil school environment is necessary
6 for students to learn and meet high academic standards; and
7

8 WHEREAS, bullying, including cyberbullying, like other
9 disruptive or violent behaviors, inhibit students' ability to
10 learn and schools' ability to educate students in a safe
11 environment; and
12

13 WHEREAS, keeping students and youth safe requires schools
14 and youth-serving agencies in the State to establish and
15 maintain clear and consistent policies and procedures to address
16 bullying; and
17

18 WHEREAS, because students learn by example, school
19 administrators, faculty, staff, parents, guardians, and
20 volunteers should be expected to demonstrate appropriate
21 behavior, treat others with civility and respect, and refuse to
22 tolerate bullying and harassment; and
23

24 WHEREAS, protecting youth in Hawaii would be furthered by
25 requiring all youth-serving agencies, public schools, charter
26 schools, and educational institutions that receive state funding
27 to establish, maintain, monitor, and enforce policies and
28 procedures related to all forms of bullying, including
29 cyberbullying; now, therefore,
30

31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015,
33 that the Governor is requested to convene a bullying prevention
34 task force; and
35



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
2 consist of at least eleven members, to be selected by the
3 Governor, from a variety of educational institutions and
4 community agencies that will be affected by the implementation
5 of anti-bullying policies, including:

- 6 (1) Teachers;
- 7 (2) Administrators from educational institutions and
8 agencies;
- 9 (3) School mental health professionals;
- 10 (4) Parents and legal guardians;
- 11 (5) Youth;
- 12 (6) Direct service providers;
- 13 (7) Clergy; and
- 14 (8) Youth advocates; and

15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
25 create a model anti-bullying policy for use by educational
26 institutions, youth-serving agencies, and grantees that provide
27 services, activities, or privileges to youth on behalf of the
28 State; and

29
30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the model anti-bullying policy
31 include:

- 32 (1) A definition of bullying, including cyberbullying;
 - 33 (2) A statement prohibiting bullying;
 - 34 (3) A statement that the policy applies to participation
35 in functions sponsored by the agency, educational
36 institution, or grantee;
 - 37 (4) A code of conduct;
- 38
39
40
41
42



- 1 (5) A list of consequences, including alternative
2 discipline approaches, that may result from an
3 identified incident of bullying which are designed to
4 correct the bullying behavior, prevent another
5 occurrence or retaliation, protect the victim, and be
6 flexible so that the consequences can be uniquely
7 applied to the individual incident and varied in
8 method and severity;
9
- 10 (6) A procedure for reporting bullying or retaliation for
11 reporting an act of bullying, including a procedure
12 for anonymous reports of bullying, provided that no
13 formal response be taken solely on the basis of an
14 anonymous report;
15
- 16 (7) A procedure for prompt investigation of reports of
17 violations of an anti-bullying policy and of
18 complaints of bullying or retaliation, including the
19 name and contact information of the person responsible
20 for investigating reports;
21
- 22 (8) A procedure of prompt notification of the parents or
23 guardians of the student or youth alleged to have
24 committed an act of bullying and the parents or
25 guardians of the student or youth targeted by the
26 alleged act, provided that if the administrator
27 believes that contacting the parent or guardian would
28 endanger the health or well-being of a student, they
29 may delay such contact as appropriate;
30
- 31 (9) An appeal process for a party who is not satisfied
32 with the outcome of the initial investigation; and
33
- 34 (10) A statement that prohibits retaliation against any
35 person who reports or witnesses incidents of bullying;
36 and
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force serve
39 without compensation; and
40

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
42 submit an initial report of its findings and recommendations,



S.R. NO. 114

1 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
 2 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
 3 of 2016, and a final report to the Legislature no later than
 4 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
 5 2017; and

6
 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be dissolved on
 8 December 31, 2017; and

9
 10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 11 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the
 12 Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, and Director of
 13 Human Services.

14
 15
 16

OFFERED BY:

Michelle Fedani

Breen Post

Shanne Ann Oakland

Harriet George

M.N.W.



