

MAR 08 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT ON HOW MUCH
FUNDING IS REQUIRED FOR ON-CAMPUS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS.

1 WHEREAS, recently, mass shootings at schools have become an
2 epidemic in America, striking fear into students, parents, and
3 teachers throughout the country; and
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5 WHEREAS, the recent school shooting at Marjory Stoneman
6 Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, is another saddening
7 event that illustrates how severe school shootings have become
8 and demonstrates the importance of creating a safe environment
9 in all educational institutions; and
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11 WHEREAS, in an attempt to better secure and protect
12 schools, states have been utilizing local law enforcement
13 officers by stationing the officers in schools; these officers
14 have come to be known as school resource officers; and
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16 WHEREAS, school resource officers are well-trained officers
17 who are skilled in handling armed weaponry and specifically
18 stationed in schools to prevent any crime, gang related
19 activity, and address any issue that could threaten the safety
20 of the students and faculty; and
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22 WHEREAS, the school resource officers work with the school
23 administration and teachers to not only protect students and
24 faculty, but to also teach topics related to law enforcement
25 geared toward positive student behavior and act as informal
26 counselors for students; and
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28 WHEREAS, in 1999, the federal government established the
29 "Cops in Schools" grant program that awarded over \$750,000,000
30 to hire school resource officers throughout the United States;
31 and
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33 WHEREAS, the funding that was provided by the federal
34 government to maintain school resource officers has since been
35 depleted; and
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WHEREAS, the lack of funding has not prevented other counties from providing a safe environment in schools by continuing to support school resource officers; and

WHEREAS, because of the value that the officers had on the campuses, schools in the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui have maintained school resource officers in certain schools despite the lack of federal funding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, that the Honolulu Police Department is requested to report on the costs of funding on-campus school resource officers, including but not limited to manpower, amount of officers necessary, and any other costs required for officers to be stationed in intermediate and high schools on the island of Oahu and to provide a report to this body no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2019 Legislature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of the Department of Education, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Chair of the City Council of Honolulu, and Chief of Police of the Honolulu Police Department.

OFFERED BY: Michelle D. Sudani

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Matt
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AC with agree