

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



CATHY K. IKEDA
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

FOR: HB 1329 HD1 SD1 Relating to Education
DATE: March 31, 2023
TIME: 9:45 A.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Way & Means
ROOM: Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 1329 HD1 SD1 with suggested amendments** which requires the Department of Education to work with certain organizations to develop and implement an active shooter training program in all public and charter schools under the jurisdiction of the department. The measure also exempts public and charter school students from participation in the department’s active shooter training program.

The Commission appreciates the Senate’s inclusion of charter schools in this program as charter schools are also public schools. To avoid any confusion and uncertainty, the Commission respectfully requests the following amendments:

- Remove the words “under the jurisdiction of the department” on page 2, lines 4 and 5; and page 2, line 13.

The Commission is available to work with this committee, the DOE, and our public charter schools in moving this legislation forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/31/2023

Time: 09:45 AM

Location: CR 211 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1329, HD1, SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education to work with certain organizations to develop and implement an active shooter training program in all public and charter schools under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education. Exempts public and charter school students from participation in an active shooter training program of the Department of Education. Effective 6/30/3000. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1329, HD1, SD1, and is committed to providing schools with a training program to effectively address an active shooter threat.

The majority of public schools in Hawaii are constructed in a distinct open-air setting. Due to their unique architectural design, Hawaii schools pose an array of security concerns for school administrators and law enforcement alike.

As a result of these concerns, the Department has collaborated with and will continue to work with local and federal law enforcement and its contracted active shooter training vendor. Due to the recent unprecedented increase in school shootings, the Department recognizes the need to enhance its commitment to provide a robust active threat training program.

The Department would like to note that should there be any circumstances where an employee's safety is in any way compromised, the Department does have existing processes in place to address these concerns and ensure the safety of all

administrators, teachers, and staff at our schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

HB-1329-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 11:48:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cards Pintor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this bill.

Mahalo nui,

Cards Pintor

LATE

HB-1329-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 12:43:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Pcola_Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Can someone just do something?

Update.

Just got news.

It's a "threat" of an active shooter. Police are at the school. Someone called the school to threaten a school shooting and it was also on social media.

We are going to be in lockdown for the rest of the day, continuing to teach, locked in.

Active shooter. Radford high school. Police are present. My school is next door. My kids and I are currently on lockdown.

As I sat in lockdown with my class today, I started thinking things. Things I had not really thought about before. These things I was thinking, I felt were SO ABSURD to me. Why am I thinking about this? Do other teachers think these things too?

I took a moment to reflect on the sheer abhorrent society we live in.

As a teacher, I should NEVER have to (and I don't get paid enough for this bollocks).

1. Sit there and ask myself if the cupboards under the sink would be bullet proof enough to save some children and how many kids could I fit under there?

2. How many doors do I have to watch out for and what in the room could I use to stack against it to protect the kids?

3. Windows. What can I do with the windows to stop a bullet or protect them from the glass

4. Is that cupboard over there safe enough do I think? How many kids can I stash in there?

5. What can I pick out of this classroom that I could use as a weapon against someone if I had to. A pencil?

6. How could I use a pencil as a weapon. Would I just walk up to him and stab him in the eye?

7. Maybe I could throw an eraser at his balls.

And so on and so on thought after thought.

8. What do I do if one of them gets shot?

Do I even know what to do?

How would I react ?

And the best one.....

What ever it is you DO make sure it's by the book, cross all the T's and dot all of the I's, because if you don't; you'll go through all that trauma and then they'll throw you in jail because they said you made a mistake.

Then I thought.

No matter what I do. I'm screwed.

LATE

HB-1329-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:29:24 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen T Hazam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please SUPPORT HB1329 HD! SD1. Hawai needs to prepare for the possibility of an active shooter event. This state is not immune from such a tragic possibility. Please SUPPORT HB1329.

LATE

HB-1329-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2023 9:38:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2023 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicolle Bekers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an educator in the in the state of Hawai'i and a mother of two young boys in school, I have in depth knowledge of the lack of safety provided to our youth in schools.

I strongly believe we need to pass this bill so that all public schools, and hopefully private schools too, follow suit and do everything they can to prepare our children for any chance of an active shooter. While the chances are probably less likely this would occur than on the mainland, it is still possible. It is our god given duty to protect all keiki and the people who teach them as educators are mothers, fathers, grandparents, etc. History teachers use if we listen. No one was prepared for Pearl Harbor when our precious island was attacked and so many brave young men killed, but it happened. We need to do everything in our power to make sure that not even ONE child is killed in our schools. A place where they should be safe, nurtured and educated. There is a way to teach them safely without scaring them and harming them emotionally. It is our job to find the way. To not prepare them would be irresponsible and wrong.

Thank you for taking the time it hear my opinion and I hope and pray that Hawai'i makes all the best choices to protect our keiki and educators alike by preparing them in a nurturing way.
Mahalo Nui Loa.