

MAR 10 2006

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION TO INCLUDE "CYBER BULLYING" AS A FORM OF
HARASSMENT WHEN REVIEWING CHAPTER 8-19 OF ITS
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES.

1 WHEREAS, a safe and conducive learning environment is
2 essential in order for our schools to be successful; and
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4 WHEREAS, students, teachers, and school administrators must
5 work together to prevent, raise awareness of, and create
6 intervention strategies to deal with bullying, which often goes
7 underreported; and
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9 WHEREAS, a recent study by the National Center for
10 Education Statistics found that fourteen per cent of students
11 ages twelve to eighteen report being bullied at schools; and
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13 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Education's Safe
14 Schools Community Advisory Committee, bullying and harassment
15 are pervasive in Hawaii's public schools; and
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17 WHEREAS, the Safe Schools Community Advisory Committee has
18 been, for the past year, reviewing its policies on harassment
19 and re-examining Chapter 8-19 of the Department of Education's
20 administrative rules; and
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22 WHEREAS, the current definition of harassment in the
23 administrative rules does not include cyber bullying, which is a
24 form of harassment using electronic forms of communication,
25 including email and the Internet; now, therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the
29 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education
30 and the Department of Education are urged to amend their
31 policies and administrative rules to include cyber bullying as a



1 form of harassment subject to investigation and disciplinary
2 action in the same manner as other forms of harassment; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
6 Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, and the
7 Chairperson of the Safe Schools Community Advisory Committee.
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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. ...", is written over a horizontal line.

