
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
TO DEVELOP, AND FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
IMPLEMENT A POLICY AGAINST TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AND ABUSE.

1 WHEREAS, teen dating violence is a pattern of teen
2 controlling and abusive behavior of one person over another
3 within a romantic relationship including verbal, emotional,
4 physical, sexual and financial abuse; and
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6 WHEREAS, lack of dating experience allows teens to be more
7 vulnerable to dating violence where they are less likely to
8 recognize the abuse; and
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10 WHEREAS, teen dating violence has become a prevalent
11 problem in high schools, junior high schools and middle schools
12 throughout our country, with one in three teens experiencing
13 some kind of abuse in their romantic relationships; and
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15 WHEREAS, girls and women between the ages of 16 and 24
16 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence and of
17 the young murdered each year between the ages of 15 to 19 thirty
18 percent are killed by their boyfriend or husband; and
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20 WHEREAS, recent studies have shown that teen dating
21 violence is starting at an early age with 11 to 14 year olds
22 able to identify aspects of teen dating abuse in their social
23 lives; and
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25 WHEREAS, early sexual experiences can be a precursor to
26 dating violence and abuse among older teens and can perpetuate a
27 culture of acceptance of this type of behavior; and
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29 WHEREAS, abuse and violence in intimate partner
30 relationships not only causes great individual pain, but also
31 breaks down families, communities and society at large; and



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2 WHEREAS, education is the best mechanism to stop teen
3 dating violence and is crucial to create a culture of
4 intolerance for teen dating abuse; and
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6 WHEREAS, when a student is a victim of dating violence, her
7 academic life suffers and her safety at school is jeopardized;
8 now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
12 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii State Coalition
13 against Domestic Violence develop a model dating violence policy
14 by January 1, 2010 to assist public schools in developing
15 policies for dating violence reporting and response, and
16 transmit the policy to the Board of Education for approval by
17 January 15, 2010; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve
20 such policy as soon as possible for use within all public
21 schools, and that the Department of Education create public-
22 private partnerships to provide, on an annual basis, dating
23 violence training to teach all administrators, teachers, nurses,
24 and counselors at the middle and high schools to recognize the
25 signs of dating violence; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii public schools
28 consider incorporating age-appropriate dating violence education
29 into any annual health curriculum framework for students in
30 grades seven through twelve; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
34 the Department of Education, the Chairperson of the Hawaii Board
35 of Education, and all Hawaii public school administrators and
36 principals.
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H.C.R. NO. 246

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