

MAR 18 2009

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP AND 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
5

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
9

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
14

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
19

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
24

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
28

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
32



1 WHEREAS, education is the best mechanism to stop teen
2 dating violence and is crucial to create a culture of
3 intolerance for teen dating abuse; and
4

5 WHEREAS, when a student is a victim of dating violence, her
6 academic life suffers and her safety at school is jeopardized;
7 now, therefore,
8

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii State
12 Coalition against Domestic Violence develop a model dating
13 violence policy by January 1, 2010 to assist public schools in
14 developing policies for dating violence reporting and response;
15 and
16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education
18 create public-private partnerships to provide, on an annual
19 basis, dating violence training to all administrators, teachers,
20 nurses, and counselors at the middle and high schools; and
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii public schools
23 consider incorporating age-appropriate dating violence education
24 into any annual health curriculum framework for students in
25 grades seven through twelve; and
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
29 the Department of Education, the Chairperson of the Hawaii Board
30 of Education, and all Hawaii public school administrators and
31 principals.
32
33
34

OFFERED BY: Sharon Chun Oakland
Michelle N. Sadani
Mike Hubbard
Ariad Yolge

