

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 6, 2009

RE: H.B. No. 329
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 329
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to provide Hawaii's youth with:

- (1) Reliable information regarding contraception and protection from sexually transmitted diseases; and
- (2) Comprehensive sexuality education that empowers them to act responsibly and in their best self-interest,

by requiring the State to reject all Title V federal funding for mandated abstinence-only-until-marriage programs.

The Department of Education (DOE), Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, Community Alliance on Prisons, Planned Parenthood Hawaii, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii, Hawaii State Democratic Women's Caucus, Hawaii Women's Political Caucus, Hawaii Youth Services Network, American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc., Mestizo Association, and numerous concerned individuals supported this bill. The Department of Health, Catholic Charities Hawaii's Mary Jane Program (Try Wait! Program), Pro-Family Hawaii, and several concerned individuals opposed this measure. Hawaii Right to Life and several concerned individuals submitted comments.



Your Committee notes DOE's testimony in which DOE stated that, currently, it does not accept any Title V (Social Security Act of 1996) funding. This bill does not prohibit programs from providing abstinence-only instruction and DOE will continue to provide Hawaii's public school students with comprehensive sex education instruction that includes information on the value of abstinence as the surest method of preventing sexually transmitted diseases and unplanned pregnancy, and also inform them on the use of other protective devices and methods.

Your Committee has amended this bill by changing its effective date to July 1, 2020, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 329, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 329, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Education.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



RYAN I. YAMANE, Chair



