

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that when a student is a  
2 victim of dating violence, their academic life suffers and their  
3 safety at school is jeopardized. The legislature also finds  
4 that a policy to create an environment free of dating violence  
5 and to provide dating violence education to students, parents,  
6 staff, faculty, and administrators, in order to prevent dating  
7 violence and to address incidents involving dating violence  
8 would benefit students. The purpose of this Act is to provide  
9 the authority to create such a policy.

10           SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately  
12 designated and to read as follows:

13           "§302A-A Dating violence policy. (a) As used in this  
14 section:

15           "At school" means in a classroom, on or immediately  
16 adjacent to school premises, on a school bus or other school-  
17 related vehicle, at an official school bus stop, or at any



1 school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is on  
2 school grounds.

3 "Dating partner" means any person, regardless of gender,  
4 involved in an intimate relationship with another primarily  
5 characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement  
6 whether casual, serious or long-term.

7 "Dating violence" means a pattern of behavior where one  
8 person uses threats of, or actually uses, physical, sexual,  
9 verbal or emotional abuse to control his or her dating partner.

10 (b) The department shall develop a model dating violence  
11 policy to assist school districts in developing policies for  
12 dating violence reporting and response. The model policy shall  
13 be issued before January 1, 2010. The policy shall include, but  
14 not be limited to, a statement that dating violence will not be  
15 tolerated, dating violence reporting procedures, guidelines to  
16 responding to at school incidents of dating violence and  
17 discipline procedures specific to such incidents.

18 (c) The policy shall be published along with any rules,  
19 procedures and standards of conduct for students at school.

20 (d) The department shall provide, on an annual basis,  
21 dating violence training to all administrators, teachers,  
22 nurses, and counselors at the middle and high school levels.



1 Other staff may attend the training on a voluntary basis. The  
2 training shall include, but not be limited to, warning signs of  
3 dating violence and the departmental dating violence policy.

4 (e) Notice shall be given to all parents and legal  
5 guardians of middle and high school students of the department's  
6 dating violence policy. Copies shall be provided upon request.

7 (f) This section shall not create any civil or criminal  
8 cause of action, nor shall it prevent a victim from redress  
9 under other available laws.

10 **§302A-B Dating violence education.** (a) The department  
11 shall incorporate age-appropriate dating violence education into  
12 any annual health curriculum framework for students in grades  
13 seven through twelve. Dating violence education shall include,  
14 but not be limited to, defining dating violence, recognizing  
15 dating violence warning signs and characteristics of healthy  
16 relationships. Students shall be provided with the departmental  
17 dating violence policy.

18 (b) As used in this section, "at school", "dating  
19 partner", and "dating violence" shall have the same meaning as  
20 defined in §302A-A.

21 (c) The department shall review and approve grade level  
22 topics relating to dating violence and healthy relationships.



1        (d) Upon written request to a school principal, a parent  
 2 or legal guardian of a student less than eighteen years of age,  
 3 within a reasonable period of time after the request is made,  
 4 shall be permitted to examine the dating violence education  
 5 program instruction materials at the school in which their child  
 6 is enrolled."

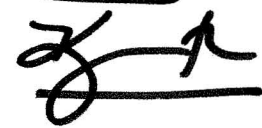
7        SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

8        SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

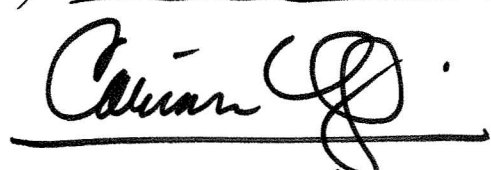
9

10

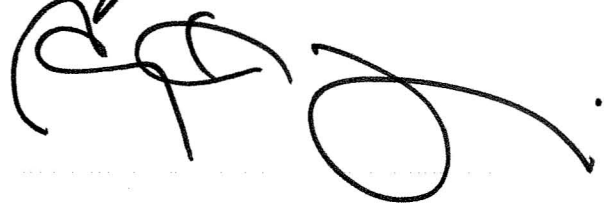
INTRODUCED BY: 



Barbara Manueto



Guthrie Thelen



JAN 28 2009



**Report Title:**

Education

**Description:**

Tasks the department of education to enact a dating violence policy and age-appropriate dating violence education to middle and high school students and dating violence prevention training to appropriate staff.

