

JAN 21 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO EMPHASIZE TEENAGE PREGNANCY
PREVENTION AND SUPPORT PREVENTION STRATEGIES.

1 WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii Department of Human
2 Services, Hawaii's teenage pregnancy rate is greater than the
3 national average; and

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5 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
6 reported in 2007 that 36.2 per cent of Hawaii high school
7 students had sexual intercourse before the age of thirteen; and

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9 WHEREAS, teenage pregnancy can disrupt families and is
10 linked with lower educational attainment and lower economic
11 well-being of parents and their children; and

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13 WHEREAS, section 321-11.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
14 requires that "[s]exuality health education programs funded by
15 the State shall provide medically accurate and factual
16 information that is age appropriate and includes education on
17 abstinence, contraception, and methods of disease prevention to
18 prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease,
19 including human immunodeficiency virus"; and

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21 WHEREAS, despite the statutory provision for education on
22 pregnancy prevention, the Centers for Disease Control and
23 Prevention's national Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance for 2007
24 indicates that 54.2 per cent of sexually active high school
25 students in Hawaii used a condom during their last sexual
26 intercourse, which was the lowest condom use rate of all states
27 for that survey; and

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29 WHEREAS, Hawaii youth have expressed the need for more
30 materials and school curriculum to emphasize the prevention of
31 teenage pregnancy and the need for greater availability of
32 teenage pregnancy prevention items, such as condoms; now,
33 therefore,

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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
36 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010,



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1 that public schools are encouraged to place greater emphasis on
2 teenage pregnancy prevention in their curricula; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that public schools are encouraged
5 to make available more items, such as condoms, that support and
6 enable teenagers to apply the pregnancy prevention strategies
7 taught in the classroom; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
10 Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education,
11 the Chairperson of the Board of Education, and the President of
12 the Hawaii State PTSA.

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OFFERED BY:

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