

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 8:41 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: jazmin.boots@hfaa.net
Subject: Testimony for SB919 on 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM SB919

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jazmin Boots
Organization: Hawaii Families as Allies
Address: 99-209 Moanlua Rd. Aiea, HI
Phone: 8084878785
E-mail: jazmin.boots@hfaa.net
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

I am speaking in support of this bill. As a child I had personal experience with bullying and harassment, and I know firsthand how threatening behaviors can affect a student's education. Many times acts would be witnessed by teachers who would mindlessly tell the bullies to stop and not take any further interventions. Although it would address the aggressive actions for the time being, it did not resolve the overall offense being made. Hopefully if we can address the problem with aggressive behavior before it escalates, victims will not be affected in their progression in school.

Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Education Committee

Rachel Makaiwi
Hawaii Youth Helping Youth
808-381-4897

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Support for S.B. No. 919, Relating to Education

I am a local Hawaiian resident, born and raised on Oahu, and currently in my third year at college studying social work. I have recently joined Hawaii Youth Helping Youth (HYHY), a non-profit organization aimed at helping Hawaii's youth, particularly those with mental illness, physical disability, and emotional instability. As a student and a member of HYHY, I am testifying in support of S.B. No. 919 and its proposal of the Safe Schools Act.

By law, all children are required to attend school and for many, school is a safe haven, a place for learning, friends, and fun. But for others, school elicits feelings of fear and frustration because of the endless torment they receive from other children. The American Justice Department has reported that one in every four children is bullied at school. Yet they have to return to it every day. Children deserve the right to a safe school environment.

If students continue to be bullied, there can be damaging effects that last a life time. Effects like depression, antisocial tendencies, violence toward more vulnerable, and attachment disorders are just a few ways that bully victims suffer in the long run. Oftentimes, the bullied also become the bullies searching for revenge. This can be even more damaging. The Columbine shooting is a famous example of the detrimental effects that bullying has on the bully victim. Thousands of innocent students and teachers can also be exposed to violence in the hands of vengeful bully victims.

I have had experience with being bullied in third grade. A boy would push me to the ground, trip me, and tease me on a daily basis. He even once told me he wanted to shoot me with a gun. For a long time, I was horrified of him, but also of attending school because it was associated with his presence. After intervention from school authorities, his bullying stopped and I felt more comfortable at school again. I was lucky that the school had intervened, but there are thousands of others who continue to suffer under the radar.

Across the country, the bullied are facing malicious attacks from bullies every day. By passing this bill and instating the Safe Schools Act, Hawaii can be one step closer to ensuring that children are getting what is intended out of school: education. I urge that the committee pass S.B. No. 919. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 8:55 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: k11jamaka@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB919 on 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM SB919

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jacob Makaiwi
Organization: Hawaii Youth Helping Youth (HYHY)
Address: 99-209 Moanalua Rd. Suite 305 Aiea, HI 96701
Phone: (808)487-8785
E-mail: k11jamaka@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Please support SB 919 regarding bullying in schools. I belong to a statewide youth advocacy group called Hawaii Youth Helping Youth (HYHY) and we support this bill. We have many youth who have been bullied in school to the point of not graduating or finishing school. Some of them still have fears because of their experiences. We hope that if this bill is passed we will see improvement in our schools and have a safer environment for students. Thank you

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 8:57 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: k12kafane@ksbe.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB919 on 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM SB919

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kayla Fanene
Organization: Hawaii Youth Helping Youth (HYHY)
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: k12kafane@ksbe.edu
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Please pass SB 919 to law. The haumana of Hawaii need to feel safe in school and must be protected. This bill will hold school administrators accountable and allow them to deal with bullies.

Mahalo,

Kayla Fanene

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 9:11 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: donmak808@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB919 on 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM SB919

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Donna Makaiwi
Organization: Individual
Address: 2519 Komo Mai Drive Pearl City, HI
Phone: 381-6315
E-mail: donmak808@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Please support SB919 (Safe Schools Act) regarding bullying in our public schools here in Hawaii. As a youth programs coordinator, I work with youth who have been seriously affected by bullying and I see the impact it has on their lives. Some of them eventually dropped out of school because of their experiences, while others had to suffer through emotional and mental health challenges due to the traumatic events that happened while at school. I urge you to please support this bill and help us make the schools a safer place for our children. Mahalo

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 8:58 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: mackey.rivera@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB919 on 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM SB919

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nalu Rivera
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mackey.rivera@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:
I support SB 919. Please protect kids in schools.

LATE

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 8:53 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: k.rivera808@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB919 on 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM SB919

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kim Rivera
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: k.rivera808@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

I strongly support SB 919. Please pass this bill as it is needed and long overdue.

Mahalo,
Kim Rivera

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 10:44 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: bailey.young@hfaa.net
Subject: Testimony for SB919 on 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/9/2011 1:15:00 PM SB919

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bailey Young
Organization: hawaii youth helping youth
Address: 99-209 moanalua rd, suite 305 aiea,Hawaii
Phone: (808) 387-3273
E-mail: bailey.young@hfaa.net
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Hello my name is Bailey and i am a bullying vicim and bullying has effected me in a way that nothing else in my life has and is the reason that today i am a youth advocate. I've seem others bullied pestered and emotionally neglected to the point where they have no will to live and many have taken their lives because they were bullied and no one helped them. Or by the time someone tried to help it was to late. I believe that bullying need to be stopped at a early age and early time so that tragedies like the ones i have witnessed might just stop. If the schools and the state take accountability i know that the problem will be reduce and hopefully eliminated. I support this bill with a passion. I ask ow for your support.