

# SCR95

Education; Internet Use;  
Social Media

EDU, EDT

**Date:** 03/16/2012

**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Resolution:** SCR 095 REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, TO EXAMINE LOCAL AND NATIONAL MODELS OF BEST PRACTICES FOR THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS AND RECOMMEND ANY NEW GUIDELINES TO INCREASE INTERNET ACCESS TO ALLOW THE RESPONSIBLE AND POSITIVE INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE CLASSROOM, WHILE ENSURING NECESSARY PROTECTIONS TO PREVENT ABUSE.

**Purpose of Resolution:** Education; Internet Use; Social Media

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (DOE) supports SCR 95. The DOE's Office of Information Technology Services (OITS) manages the Department's access to the internet to insure compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and prevent unauthorized intrusions into the DOE network. The DOE supports greater access to appropriate internet content for both our students and teachers.

OITS has already approved a pilot deployment of Edmodo which provides Facebook-like features to students and teachers for collaboration and communications. The DOE has also started to leverage our Cisco Ironport captive portal features to provide an open internet to our teachers.

Greater internet access means greater responsibilities. The DOE is also developing Acceptable Use Policies (AUP) for DOE teachers. These AUPs will guide the users to safe online browsing and appropriate behavior online. The DOE will develop ways to teach students how to behave appropriately online, whether that interaction occurs at home or at school. This safety information will also include cyberbullying awareness, prevention, and intervention.

We welcome the opportunity to update the Legislature next year on our efforts to expand the internet content to our schools.

Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 95

Title: REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, TO EXAMINE LOCAL AND NATIONAL MODELS OF BEST PRACTICES FOR THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS AND RECOMMEND ANY NEW GUIDELINES TO INCREASE INTERNET ACCESS TO ALLOW THE RESPONSIBLE AND POSITIVE INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE CLASSROOM, WHILE ENSURING NECESSARY PROTECTIONS TO PREVENT ABUSE.

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is Makai Mann and I am a senior at Kamehameha Schools Maui High School. I am testifying on SCR No. 95, which requests an examination of local and national models for the use of technology and social media in schools. I support this resolution for several reasons.

Firstly, as a student at Kamehameha Schools I have experienced firsthand the use of technology, the internet and social networks such as Blackboard in high school. Through these experiences I have seen the benefits of proper use of technology. Those tools allow for quick research, a variety of accurate sources, and in some cases, nearly immediate feedback from instructors. I have also seen technology used incorrectly. It can become a distraction, a tool for bullying or provide inaccurate sources; however, the internet is something that most students will eventually have to use in the workforce, and it is important that they learn to use it correctly early on.

Additionally, I have done a great deal of research on the pros and cons of social networks for a debate competition and found significant amounts of evidence both supporting and condemning social networks. There are many ways to use and misuse social media, but the bottom line is that teens will use social networks on their own time. According to Pew Research Center, 73% of wired teens use social media. Among those teens, 42% reported that they had been bullied online at least once. By incorporating social networks into the classroom, these teens can be monitored and taught valuable skills for properly using these tools, instead of being free to abuse the internet and social media.

In conclusion, I believe that SCR No. 95 can drastically improve the overall schooling experience for both educators and students in Hawai'i's schools. There are many successful programs and models for beneficial use of the internet, technology and social networks for education, such as: Khan Academy, Blackboard, Pearson Education and Edmodo. Examining these as well as the many other programs and models both locally and nationally can provide a great place to begin for the 2013-2014 school year.

Senate Concurrent Resolution Number: **95**

Title: REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, TO EXAMINE LOCAL AND NATIONAL MODELS OF BEST PRACTICES FOR THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS AND RECOMMEND ANY NEW GUIDELINES TO INCREASE INTERNET ACCESS TO ALLOW THE RESPONSIBLE AND POSITIVE INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE CLASSROOM, WHILE ENSURING NECESSARY PROTECTIONS TO PREVENT ABUSE.

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is Christian Fernandez and I am a senior at Kamehameha Schools Maui High School. I am testifying on HB No. SCR 95, which examines the Models of Best Practices for Use of Technology in Schools and Recommend New Guidelines to Increase Internet Access to Allow Responsible & Positive Integration of Social Media in the Classroom while Ensuring Necessary Protections to Prevent Abuse. I strongly support this Bill for the following reasons...

First, as a student in my high school's Information and Technology Academy I know very well the importance of integrating technology into the learning environment. Society is now in a technological age where information and resources can be found effortlessly on the internet at the click of a mouse. Now more than ever, careers incorporate the use of technology such as computers and the internet, and because of this, it is imperative that students be taught how to utilize this technology correctly and efficiently as they progress through different levels of schooling and eventually into the workforce.

Additionally, along with sights like Facebook and YouTube, sights such as Blackboard and Moodle are used as a type of social networking that enhances a classrooms regular curriculum. Students are able to share research findings, and start conversations, forums, and comment threads about current events, class work and homework. This creates a learning environment in which every student can be involved in what is being taught in a way that is very familiar to them. This helps to streamline the learning process and enable students to learn from the resources on the internet as well each other which helps to promote a higher level of critical thinking. These sights can also offer a type of support system for students who are struggling. Being able to incorporate all of these lessons into the classroom through social networking will help to promote better education and preparedness for the workforce.

In conclusion, sights such as Facebook, YouTube, Blackboard, and Moodle should be incorporated into school curriculum to help create effective learning environments that help improve students thinking, personal skills, and independence. All of these skills are crucial to someone who will be entering college or the workforce. For these reasons, I stand firmly resolved that responsible and positive integration of social media in the classroom will be a positive investment in the future by greatly benefit students.

## Senate Concurrent Resolution 95

Title: Education; Internet Use; Social Media

Good Afternoon, Senators. My Name is Luisa Akaveka and I am currently a senior at Kalaheo High School. I am testifying SCR 95, Education; Internet Use; Social Media. I strongly support SCR95. In current standing, the internet has become more relevant and beneficial in classrooms for recent and instantaneous information. Increasing internet access in classes has made way for more educational and research activities. Also, students who have been granted an increase in internet access would not have to rely on certain publications that may be several years old.

In certain states, students who were given an increase in amount of internet access have shown a greater ability to handle complex projects and assignment. Students have also become more motivated to be active during class, when presented with technology.

Furthermore, the increase of internet access, with effective management of course, will create educational opportunities and possibly more active and independent students for the near future. These are some of the reasons I strongly support SCR 95. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 95

Title: Education; Internet Use; Social Media

Good afternoon Senators. My name is Hannah Carnes, and I am a sophomore at Kalaheo High School. I am testifying on SCR. 95, Education; Internet Use; Social Media. I support this resolution for the following reason.

In this day and age, students grow up surrounded by technology, and especially social media. Social media, such as YouTube and Facebook, when integrated into the curriculum can have a very strong impact on students. Due to the fact that we live in a world of social media, when it's brought into our education, we as students are more likely to be better engaged in the activities taking place in school. According to a report that can be found in The Journal of Educational Technology Systems, "the use of social networking not only benefits students, but also provides new opportunities for communication amongst teachers and administrators."

House Bill (HB) Number: SCR 95      Senate Education hearing on Fri. 03/16 at 1:15 PM

Title: Examine Models of Best Practices for Use of Technology in Schools and Recommend New Guidelines to Increase Internet Access to Allow Responsible & Positive Integration of Social Media in the Classroom while Ensuring Necessary Protections to Prevent Abuse

Good Afternoon, Senators. My name is Jamie Chan and I am a junior at Punahou School. I am testifying on SCR 95, Examine Models of Best Practices for Use of Technology in Schools and Recommend New Guidelines to Increase Internet Access to Allow Responsible & Positive Integration of Social Media in the Classroom while Ensuring Necessary Protections to Prevent Abuse. I strongly oppose this bill for the following reasons:

I do not believe after reviewing the DOE's Student Internet Use Policy that the current policy does not already allow for appropriate use of the Internet in classrooms. Other than enhancing educational research activities, allowing for the communication of information, accessing appropriate resources, and developing literacy skills, do students need further access of the Internet to enhance learning in the classrooms.

If given too much freedom on the Internet, students tend to have the habit of abusing this freedom, which could ultimately be detrimental to the learning in the classroom. I believe that the classroom itself, with both teachers and physical resources, are adequate materials for learning. And although I also believe that technology heavily supplements this learning, it is to an extent. Too much freedom will eventually lead to abuse of freedom; granting this freedom therefore tempts the abuse of it.

The Internet, a bounty of ever-expanding information, itself is not strictly filtered to fit the guidelines of the classroom—it is therefore up to the Board of Education and Department of Education to determine these guidelines. Although information is ever-increasing, I do not believe the structure of the classroom curriculum has changed so much that further Internet access is needed to supplement it. The Internet is not concentrated on education—instead, many teenagers that this bill would affect if passed do not use the Internet strictly for education, but rather for solely for entertainment.

As only grade-school students, not college students, our classrooms' curriculums have developed over the years to accommodate changes that better suit the classroom needs. However, the Internet is a supplement to the classroom learning—not a necessity. Learning does not depend on the Internet, and with the guidelines already present allowing for moderate Internet access, learning can retain its position as the primary focus in the classroom, instead of subtly being replaced by the Internet.



Examine Models of Best Practices for Use of Technology in Schools and Recommend New Guidelines to Increase Internet Access to Allow Responsible & Positive Integration of Social Media in the Classroom while Ensuring Necessary Protections to Prevent Abuse

Good Afternoon, Senators. My name is Christopher Mooney and I am a junior at Punahou School. I am testifying on SCR 95, Examine Models of Best Practices for Use of Technology in Schools and Recommend New Guidelines to Increase Internet Access to Allow Responsible & Positive Integration of Social Media in the Classroom while Ensuring Necessary Protections to Prevent Abuse. I support this bill for the following reasons:

There is no questioning that technology moves at a staggering pace in this day and age. It seems that the only thing that moves faster than information and ideas is the technology that helps us share them. Each day some new gadget or website takes the world by storm, and just like that the entire world can change in the blink of an eye.

No one understands these things better than students. With a large part of our social life now being focused on the Internet, kids are becoming more and more attached to the web. While this may have its own pros and cons, it is unmistakably important.

As the trends of our younger generation shift, so too must our approach to education. Engaging a student in a way they can understand is a key aspect of any successful education system, and it would therefore be a mistake to ignore the Internet which has taken such a prominent role in the lives of young people.

While I found nothing inherently wrong with the current Internet policies, I must go back to the fact that the Internet is an incredibly entropic medium. No one can predict when or how it will change, and an investigation today may uncover issues that didn't even exist when our current policy was created. Investigating the current climate of the Internet could help schools stay relevant to the children of today, and I am of the mind that it is in our best interests to keep policies regarding fast-paced modern phenomena such as the internet as up-to-date as we possibly can.

In conclusion, I support this bill because the large role the Internet plays in the lives of young students and the rapid rate at which it changes means any law concerning it should be constantly updated.