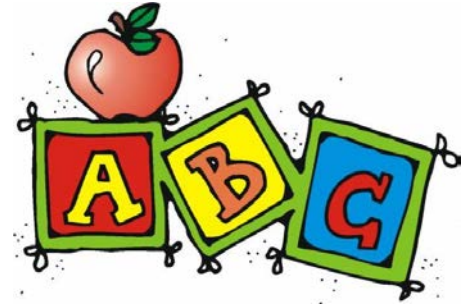


SCR51



Measure Title: REQUESTING THE ADMINISTRATION OF A YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY TO STUDENTS IN GRADES SIX TO TWELVE.

Report Title: Youth Risk Behavior Survey; Department of Education

Description:

Companion:

Package: Keiki Caucus

Current Referral: EDU/HMS

Introducer(s): CHUN OAKLAND, Baker, Galuteria, Keith-Agaran, Kidani, Ruderman, Shimabukuro, L. Thielen, Tokuda



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/12/2014

Committee: Senate Education/Senate
Human Services

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 051 REQUESTING THE ADMINISTRATION OF A YOUTH RISK
BEHAVIOR SURVEY TO STUDENTS IN GRADES SIX TO TWELVE.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports Senate Concurrent Resolution 51. In doing so however, the Department raises a concern with the "Be It Resolved" paragraph, page 2, lines 9-14, that asks the Department to also administer the youth risk behavior survey to students in charter schools. Instead, as the State Public Charter School Commission is the oversight authority over charter schools, line 14 should designate such authority separately, to administer the survey to their students in the applicable grade levels.

We also note that this measure is an alternative to another measure (H.B. 1925, H.D.1) that would statutorily require the same actions however, the Department finds it more appropriate that this be addressed as presented by the Resolution rather than by a statutory approach.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony and the opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

SENATE COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES
**SCR 51, REQUESTING THE ADMINISTRATION OF A YOUTH RISK
BEHAVIOR SURVEY TO STUDENTS IN GRADES SIX TO TWELVE**

**Testimony of Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

March 12, 2014

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the intent of Senate Concurrent
2 Resolution (SCR) 51 with reservations, and suggests amendments.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** The current cost for biennial administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey
4 (YRBS) and Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) is \$500,000. The DOH provides about 80% of the funding
5 through state special and federal funds. The Department of Education (DOE) provides the remaining
6 20% of the survey administration costs with federal funds. Additional data collection would increase the
7 costs of survey administration which are not budgeted.

8 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of SCR 51 is to expand the administration of the YRBS to
9 include students in grades 6-12 attending private and public charter schools. Presently, the YRBS is
10 administered to a sample of students in non-charter ("regular") public schools with secondary grades 6-
11 12; elementary schools with grade six are not included.

12 The DOH agrees with the intent of this resolution, to increase student participation in the YRBS
13 in order to have more representative data for Hawaii's youth population. Including students from
14 private and charter schools in the YRBS administration would provide insight into the health behaviors
15 of the approximately 20% of students who do not attend regular public schools.

1 However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requires a 60% response rate in
2 order to have weighted and representative data. In 2001 and 2003 the state was not able to report
3 weighted YRBS data due to low participation. The challenge of participation applies to schools as well
4 as students. Adopting a passive permission process for the YRBS could make it easier for students to
5 participate in the survey while still giving parents the opportunity to opt their children out. According to
6 the CDC, there are 43 other states already using a passive permission process for the YRBS.

7 The department is also concerned that this measure as written now may be construed to require
8 all students in grades six to twelve participate in the survey. A census is not needed to obtain
9 representative data for this population and it would substantially increase the cost of administration and
10 place an unnecessary burden on the schools and their students. The department recommends that the
11 YRBS be administered to a sample of students enrolled in secondary grades 6-12 at regular, private, and
12 charter schools – this process would provide the data necessary to represent Hawaii's students as a
13 whole. Complex sampling procedures are currently utilized to select which schools and students
14 participate in the YRBS. The DOH therefore recommends amending SCR51:

15 Page 2, lines 9 to 14, “BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the . . . that the Department of
16 Education is requested to administer a the youth risk behavior survey to students in select schools in
17 grades six to twelve attending public schools, including charter schools; and”

18 Page 2, lines 16 to 18, “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ~~each private schools~~ is are to
19 administer a the youth risk behavior survey to students in select schools in grades six to twelve ~~attending~~
20 ~~its school~~; and

21 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 702 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 531-2198 Fax: (808) 534-1199

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Daryl Selman, President
Judith F. Clark, Executive Director
Aloha House
American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
Bay Clinic, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu
Big Island Substance Abuse Council
Blueprint for Change
Bobby Benson Center
Catholic Charities Hawaii
Child and Family Service
Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii
Courage House Hawaii
Domestic Violence Action Center
EPIC, Inc.
Family Programs Hawaii
Family Support Hawaii
Hale Kipa, Inc.
Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.
Hawaii Behavioral Health
Hawaii Student Television
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition
Hina Mauka Teen Care
Hui Malama Learning Center
Kaanalike
Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health
KEY (Kualoa-Heeia Ecumenical Youth)
Project
Kids Hurt Too
Kokua Kalihi Valley
Life Foundation
Marimed Foundation
Maui Youth and Family Services
Palama Settlement
P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.
Parents and Children Together (PACT)
Planned Parenthood of Hawaii
REAL
Salvation Army Family Intervention Svcs.
Salvation Army Family Treatment Svcs.
Sex Abuse Treatment Center
Susannah Wesley Community Center
The Catalyst Group
The Children's Alliance of Hawaii
Waikiki Health Center
Women Helping Women
YWCA of Kauai

March 8, 2014

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
And members of the Committee on Education

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
And members of the Committee on Human Services

Testimony in Support of SCR 51 Requesting the Administration of a Youth Behavioral Risk Survey to Students in Grades 6 to 12

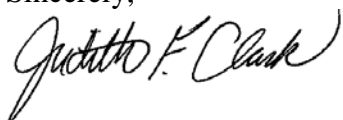
Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SCR 51 Requesting the Administration of a Youth Behavioral Risk Survey to Students in Grades 6 to 12.

The Youth Behavioral Risk Assessment (YRBS) collects valuable data on the health and well-being of Hawaii's youth that cannot be obtained through other sources. I use YRBS data in successful grant applications that are currently bringing in more than \$1.5 million in federal dollars to meet the needs of Hawaii's youth and their families. YRBS helps us understand where we are doing well with our young people and how we can work with them to reduce risks and increase healthy behavior.

The bill will increase participation in the survey by allowing for passive rather than active consent. When larger numbers of students participate, the data is more accurate and valid, and it allows for data reporting on the county level rather than having only state-level data

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director



Planned Parenthood of Hawaii

To: Hawaii State Senate Committees on Education and Human Services
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 12, 2014, 1:15 p.m.
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 414
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in support of S.C.R. 51

Dear Chairs Tokuda and Chun Oakland and Members of the Committees on Education and Human Services,

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii writes in support of S.C.R. 51, which seeks to increase the number of students participating the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (“YRBS”) and provide a more comprehensive picture of Hawaii youth’s health-risk behaviors.

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii is dedicated to providing Hawaii’s people with high quality, affordable and confidential sexual and reproductive health care, education, and advocacy. To further that mission, we rely on research and data to help us to understand the needs of the community. The YRBS is a national school-based survey conducted by the U.S. Center on Disease Control designed to, among other things, determine the prevalence of health risk behaviors amongst youth.¹ Currently, public school students are asked to opt in to participate in the survey and private school students are not asked to participate at all. S.C.R. 51 will ensure that more public and private students participate unless they opt out, which will increase the number of students participating in the survey and provide us with a better look at our youth’s current health state.

The YRBS has proven to be an important tool in understanding the health-risk behaviors among youth in Hawaii. For example, the YRBS has shown that Hawaii’s teens have the lowest rate of condom use in the country and the highest rate of sexually active teens using any other form of birth control.² This information helps us to determine where and how to focus our resources in order to best provide for the youth of Hawaii. By increasing the number of students participating in the survey, S.C.R. 51 will give us a more accurate look at Hawaii’s youth and help us to determine how to best meet their needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Laurie A. Temple
Director of Public Affairs & Government Relations

¹ See <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>.
² http://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/yrbs/pdf/hiv/hi_hiv_combo.pdf.

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