



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

**Date:** 02/25/2015  
**Time:** 02:00 PM  
**Location:** 309  
**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 0459, HD1 RELATING TO HEALTH.

**Purpose of Bill:** Specifies additional elements in Hawaii's existing sexuality health education law, including additional criteria regarding implementation of sexuality health education instruction. Requires the Department of Education to provide certain types of information to the public and parents. (HB459 HD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) would like to provide comment on HB 459 HD1 which proposes to specify additional elements of Hawaii's existing sexuality health education law and its implementation. We respectfully offer the following comments on this measure.

As a public school system, the Hawaii State Department of Education follows statutory requirements, Board of Education policies and nationally recognized guidance to inform curriculum development and adoption.

Schools provide a comprehensive sexual health education that follows the requirements set forth in the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §321-11.1 and the Hawaii State Board of Education (Board) Policy 2110, Abstinence-Based Education, which states:

*"In order to help students make decisions that promote healthy behaviors, the Department of Education shall instruct students that abstention from sexual intercourse is the surest and most responsible way to prevent unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS, and consequent emotional distress. The abstinence-based education program shall:*

- a. support abstention from sexual intercourse and provide skill development to continue abstention;*
- b. help youth who have had sexual intercourse to abstain from further sexual intercourse until an appropriate time; and*
- c. provide youth with information on and skill development in the use of protective devices and methods for the purpose of preventing sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy."*

Substantively, the Department suggests that efforts are currently underway to address sexual health education:

Section 2 (a) 1 - 5 (pg. 2-3), Medically Accurate Sexuality Health Education:

The Department empowers students to act by promoting and protecting their health and advocating for the health of others. The program content includes important and enduring ideas, issues, and concepts related to achieving good health. The skills include ways of communicating, reasoning, and investigating which characterize a health-literate person.

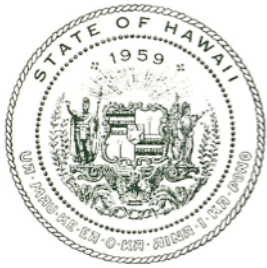
Section 2, (f) (pg. 4, lines 5-8): The Department has identified and made public a list of appropriate sexual health education curricula for middle/intermediate and high school students. Additionally, resources are available to parents, student, teachers and the public on our Department website at:

<http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/HealthAndNutrition/sexed/Pages/default.aspx>

Sexual health education is a component of our efforts to support student success. As there are existing policies and resources in place to address this area, the department respectfully suggests that this measure is not necessary at this time.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

HAWAII  
STATE  
COMMISSION  
ON THE  
STATUS  
OF  
WOMEN



Chair  
LESLIE WILKINS

COMMISSIONERS:

ELENA CABATU  
CARMILLE LIM  
AMY MONK  
LISA ELLEN SMITH  
MARILYN LEE  
JUDY KERN

Executive Director  
Catherine Betts, JD

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February 25, 2015

To: Representative Roy M. Takumi, Chair  
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Cathy Betts  
Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in Support, HB 459, HD1 Relating to Health

The Commission is in strong support of HB 459, HD1, which would specify additional elements for instruction under our already existing sexual health education law. Despite a strong sexual health education law already being in place, our Department of Education (DOE) still does not have uniform instruction on sexual health education and still focuses primarily on abstinence only education. This is a disservice to our youth, who do not have access to medically accurate sexual health education.

Hawaii's youth have one of the lowest rates of condom use in the nation. Additionally, our youth experience high teen pregnancy rates and sexually transmitted infection (STI) rates. The 2013 Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey, compiled in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the DOE, found that 36% of teens in high school were having sex, 25% of those teens had multiple partners in the three months prior to the survey, and 54% of those teens did not use a condom. Even more startling, 18% reported never learning about AIDS or HIV infection in school. Finally, 24% used drugs or alcohol before their last sexual encounter. The CDC states that the solutions to these shocking realities are better health education, more comprehensive health services, more supportive policies, and more family involvement. HB 459, HD1 is the appropriate response. This bill specifies the curriculum components, including age appropriate and medically accurate sexual health information.

However, allowing parents to "opt-in" is highly fallible and will provide a disservice to students. Students with unstable housing, students from limited english speaking households, and students with parents of limited literacy will likely not read provided information. These marginalized students are the hardest to reach, but they stand to benefit the most from sexual health education. The Commission respectfully urges this Committee to pass HB 459, HD1, but asks that this Committee consider amending the language to an opt-out policy. Thank you for your time.

# HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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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

February 23, 2015

To: Representative Roy Takumi, Chair  
And members of the Committee on Education

## **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 459 HD1 RELATING TO HEALTH**

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 459 HD1 Relating to Health.

Hawaii's communities benefit when our youth have the knowledge, skills, and resources to make safe and healthy decisions about their sexual and reproductive health.

Because we have not yet committed the resources to ensure that our young people grow up sexually safe and healthy, Hawaii has the 9<sup>th</sup> highest rate of teen pregnancy in the United States even though fewer Hawaii youth are sexually active than the U.S. average. Unfortunately, our sexually active youth have the lowest rate of condom use in the U.S. because they lack consistent access to pregnancy prevention education at school and home. Hawaiian and Pacific Islander youth have particularly high risk of unplanned pregnancy and STIs – Their teen birth rate is 145 per thousand compared to 32 for the State overall.

Young women who give birth in their teens and their children face many challenges. At age 22, only half of teen mothers have graduated from high school compared to 90% of their peers who did not give birth as teens. Eighty percent (80%) receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Benefits (TANF) during the 10 years following the birth of the child.

The children fare less well in school, scoring lower on standardized tests of reading and math, more likely to repeat a grade, and less likely to graduate from high school than their peers. The children of teen parents have a higher rate of emergency room visits, are more likely to have chronic health conditions, and have a higher rate of child abuse and neglect.

All of this costs Hawaii taxpayers \$37 million dollars a year, 71% of it in state and local costs. We can reduce these costs by providing culturally relevant, medically accurate, age appropriate pregnancy and STI prevention education in our schools and homes.

Hawaii residents support pregnancy prevention education in our public schools. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of participants stated that it was important for Hawaii public schools to include sexual health education in their curriculum in a 2012 survey conducted by SMS Research. The majority felt that neither parents nor schools were providing a sufficient amount of sexual health information, and only half felt prepared to talk about sexual health topics with their children. The majority believed that education on most sexual health topics should begin in the middle schools, with some topics (such as anatomy, puberty, and sexual abuse) beginning in the elementary schools.

Young people who complete pregnancy prevention education programs are more likely to practice abstinence, delay initiation of sex, have fewer sexual partners, and use protection when, and if, they begin having sex. In our work with youth:

- 94% of students got correct answers to questions about behaviors that put them at risk for pregnancy or STIs.
- 92% of students report that they can say no if they are not ready for sex or to unsafe sex.
- 98% say that it is important for sexually active persons to use a condom every time they have sex.

Everyone wants their children to grow up safe, healthy, and ready to succeed. We teach our children how to cross the street safely, because we know that one day they will face the risks of traffic. We must also teach our youth how to protect themselves from the sexual risks they will someday face.

The community supports sexual health education in our public schools, and our young people need and deserve it.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith F. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Judith F. Clark, MPH  
Executive Director



healthy  
mothers  
healthy  
babies

COALITION  
OF HAWAII

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education  
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 p.m.  
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 309  
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in Support of H.B. 459, HD1

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee on Education,

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies (HMHB) writes in support of H.B. 459 HD1 to promote the health and safety of our youth by ensuring that all public school students receive the most effective sexual health education.

Failing to ensure that all youth receive comprehensive sexual health education has resulted in poor health outcomes for Hawaii youth. Currently, Hawaii's teens rank lowest in the nation for condom use and for use of any type of birth control to prevent pregnancy during intercourse. The consequences are severe — Hawaii's teen pregnancy rate is 9th highest in the country and costs Hawaii taxpayers around \$32 million per year.

Our organization sees firsthand the needs and the consequences for failing to provide youth with factual, medically-based information. In addition to the high rate of unintended pregnancies, teens are less likely to seek timely prenatal care, and are more likely to deliver pre-term or low birth weight babies, contributing to the added cost of care.

Comprehensive sex education covers the wide array of topics that affect sexuality and sexual health. It is grounded in evidence-based, peer-reviewed science, to promote health and well-being in a way that is developmentally appropriate. It includes information and communication skills building as well as values exploration. Ideally, sex education in school is an integrated process that builds upon itself year after year, and is provided through grade 12.

Although parents and guardians are the primary sex educators of their children, children also receive messages about sexual health from many other sources - some of which may have more negative than positive impact. Schools and other community-based organizations can be important partners with parents to provide young people with accurate and developmentally appropriate sex education.

The goals of comprehensive sex education are to help young people gain a positive view of sexual health and to provide them with developmentally appropriate knowledge and skills so that they can make healthy decisions about their sex lives. Medically accurate sex education is an investment in our future — a generation of young people who have heard more helpful messages about sexual health; able to make well-informed, responsible decisions; form healthy relationships; and take care of their bodies.

Public opinion polls show that parents and students want sex education to be taught in our schools. In fact, Hawaii residents have shown that they support sexual health education in our public schools. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of participants stated that it was important for Hawaii public schools to include sexual health education in their curriculum in a 2012 survey conducted by SMS Research.

While only half of the participants felt prepared to talk about sexual health with their youth, the majority of participants didn't feel that parents or schools were providing a sufficient amount of sexual health information. A majority also believed that education on most sexual health topics should begin in the middle schools, with some topics (such as anatomy, puberty, and sexual abuse) beginning in the elementary schools.

Comprehensive sexual health education is a systematic and layered education process that supports youth and their families and helps them acquire the sexual health-related information, skills, and motivation necessary to act in ways that are congruent with their values. Like all school subjects, the information and skills that are taught are age-appropriate, reflect best-practice, and build on the previous year's learning.

HMHB strongly supports effective sex education that accomplishes the following goals:

- uses behavioral goals, teaching methods, and resources that are age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate, and culturally competent
- is based on theoretical approaches that have been proven to be effective
- takes place over sufficient time to cover necessary topics and skills
- employs a variety of teaching methodologies that present the content in ways that make it relevant to the student
- provides basic, accurate information about the risks of unprotected sexual intercourse and how to avoid unprotected sexual intercourse
- includes activities that address peer pressure and cultural pressure
- practices decision making, communication, negotiation, and refusal skills
- utilizes teachers who are well-trained, comfortable, and believe in the program

Hawaii's youth deserve the best and most effective health education and H.B. 459 will go far to ensure that students have the information and tools they need to make safe, healthy and responsible decisions.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kimura  
Executive Director



Planned Parenthood of Hawaii

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education  
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 p.m.  
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 309  
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in Support of H.B. 459, HD1

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee on Education,

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii writes in support of H.B. 459, HD1, as it will promote the health and safety of our youth by ensuring that all public school students receive comprehensive sexual health education. Our failure to do so has resulted in poor health outcomes for Hawaii youth. Currently, Hawaii's teens rank lowest in the nation for condom use and for use of any type of birth control to prevent pregnancy during intercourse. The consequences are severe — Hawaii's teen pregnancy rate is 9<sup>th</sup> highest in the country and costs Hawaii taxpayers around \$32 million per year.<sup>1</sup>

Comprehensive sex education covers the wide array of topics that affect sexuality and sexual health. It is grounded in evidence-based, peer-reviewed science. Its goal is to promote health and well-being in a way that is developmentally appropriate. It includes information and communication skills building as well as values exploration. Ideally, sex education in school is an integrated process that builds upon itself year after year, is initiated in kindergarten, and is provided through grade 12.

Although parents and guardians are the primary sex educators of their children, children also receive messages about sexual health from many other sources - some of which may have more negative than positive impact. Schools and other community-based organizations can be important partners with parents to provide young people with accurate and developmentally appropriate sex education.

The goals of comprehensive sex education are to help young people gain a positive view of sexual health and to provide them with developmentally appropriate knowledge and skills so that they can make healthy decisions about their sex lives now and in the future. Medically accurate sex education is an investment in Hawaii children's future and well-being. Our "return on investment" could be a generation of young people who have heard more helpful messages about sexual health than the provocative media images and/or silences they currently witness. It could be a generation of women and men comfortable in their own skin; able to make well-informed, responsible decisions; form healthy relationships; and take care of their bodies.

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<sup>1</sup> See more at [www.thenationalcampaign.org](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org). States with higher teen pregnancy rates than Hawaii include Delaware, Nevada, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi and New Mexico.

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Kahului, HI 96732  
808-871-1176



Public opinion polls show that most Americans support sex education. Parents and students want sex education to be taught in our schools. In fact, Hawaii residents have shown that they support sexual health education in our public schools. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of participants stated that it was important for Hawaii public schools to include sexual health education in their curriculum in a 2012 survey conducted by SMS Research. While only half of the participants felt prepared to talk about sexual health with their youth, the majority of participants didn't feel that parents or schools were providing a sufficient amount of sexual health information. A majority also believed that education on most sexual health topics should begin in the middle schools, with some topics (such as anatomy, puberty, and sexual abuse) beginning in the elementary schools.

Comprehensive sexual health education is a systematic and layered education process that supports youth and their families and helps them acquire the sexual health-related information, skills, and motivation necessary to act in ways that are congruent with their values. While parents and guardians are their children's primary sex educators, the majority of them feel that they need support and/or professional expertise to lead the way. Schools, as well as faith groups and community-based organizations, all have roles to play. In fact, the nature of our education system in America puts schools in the ideal position to take the lead in this process.

Ideally, sexual health education would be taught each year in our schools from kindergarten through 12th grade. Like all school subjects, the information and skills that are taught are age-appropriate, reflect best-practice, and build on the previous year's learning. According to the late Dr. Douglas Kirby, senior research scientist for ETR Associates in Scotts Valley, CA, and a nonpartisan expert on the effectiveness of school and community programs in the reduction of adolescent sexual risk-taking behaviors, (Public Health Reports, 190 (1997), 339-360) effective sex education:

- uses behavioral goals, teaching methods, and resources that are age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate, and culturally competent
- is based on theoretical approaches that have been proven to be effective
- takes place over sufficient time to cover necessary topics and skills
- employs a variety of teaching methodologies that present the content in ways that make it relevant to the student
- provides basic, accurate information about the risks of unprotected sexual intercourse and how to avoid unprotected sexual intercourse
- includes activities that address peer pressure and cultural pressure
- practices decision making, communication, negotiation, and refusal skills
- utilizes teachers who are well-trained, comfortable, and believe in the program

Hawaii's youth deserve the best and most effective health education and H.B. 459 will go far to ensure that students have the information and tools they need to make healthy, safe and responsible decisions.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Laurie Temple Field  
Director of Public Affairs & Government Relations



THE 'OHANA PROJECT  
P.O. BOX 23055 · HONOLULU, HAWAII · 96823

TESTIMONY FOR PUBLIC HEARING:  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 25, 2015  
2:00 PM, ROOM 309

TESTIMONY OPPOSING **HB 459 HD1 AS WRITTEN** - MAKING  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AMENDMENTS

Chair Rep. TAKUMI, Vice-Chair Rep. OHNO and Members of the EDN Committee:

Aloha Kakou,

I am here on behalf of the 'Ohana Project of the Hawaii Family Coalition to point out a glaring omission in HB 459 HD1 and all sexuality health education curricula in Hawaii's public schools. If left unattended, this can put our children at great risk.

HB 459 HD1 purports to reinforce positive aspects such as: "abstinence," "parental inspection of the curricula," "opt-out" and "flexibility" for schools to offer the curricula.

The bill, however is not sufficient. It is fraught with vagaries and contradictions. It does not provide real objectives or guidelines.

The most glaring deficiency is the lack of full disclosure of possible legal consequences to minors who engage in the sexual activities described in the curricula. Students are not taught that they could go to jail if they engage in the sexual practices taught to them in the comprehensive sex-ed curricula.

If the curricula are to be "comprehensive" and "age appropriate" they should include full disclosure of legal ramifications to students. For instance: "At what age is it "appropriate" for children to engage in intercourse?" and... "At what age is it lawful?" What about other sexual practices?

Will students be taught that engaging in sexual conduct taught in the DOE curricula are, in most instances, against the law and they can suffer dire legal consequences? Including being prosecuted, jailed and branded for life as sex offenders?

Who determines what is or is not "age appropriate?" Does this take into account developmental maturity? Not all children of the same age are of the same maturity.

Does “age appropriateness” include the legal age when it is appropriate for children to engage in sexual activity?

Does the curriculum itemize what sexual acts are illegal for minors to engage in? And at what specific age?

Will teachers be held liable for teaching sexual practices to young children if they are caught (or reported) acting out what they were taught?

Will teachers be liable if a student engages in sexual activity prohibited by law, but was not informed during sex-ed class about it being against the law?

Will teachers be fully apprised of their potential liability?

Will teachers be indemnified of liability by the state? And to what extent? And under what circumstances?

What penalties will there be for teachers who violate “age appropriateness?”

What guarantees are there for teachers that they if they teach everything properly according to the curricula that they will not incur liability should a student(s) break the law regarding sexual conduct?

How do you ensure that teachers are imparting to students the “skills” to make “healthy decisions” and have “respect” for something that will impact them “throughout their lives?”

How do these terms apply to liability? How do they apply toward indemnity?

Would any teacher with “minimum education and training qualifications” be allowed to teach a curriculum that can have such serious legal consequences?

In order to be indemnified from liability, shouldn't teachers have to go through an intensive training to certify their skills in psychological evaluation to determine a child's developmental stage (age appropriateness); shouldn't teachers be certified to have the expertise to convey legal ramifications to children?

## PARENTS

Will the legal ramifications be clearly disclosed in the syllabus provided to parents?

Will there be a disclaimer stating the limits of the teachers' and schools' liability for this program?

Full disclosure would necessitate parents signing off (acknowledging the risks) on having their child in the program. That means the sex-ed program would have to be an “opt in,” not “opt out” the program.

Will laws need to be changed to “relax” penalties to accommodate students who engage in sexual misconduct that they learned about it in sex-ed class?

Will there be special legislation to expunge the names of certain minors from the sex offenders list under circumstances where the school’s sex-ed program was found to be responsible?

The basic point is:

**None of the legal risks are disclosed in any of the DOE’s sex-ed curricula, comprehensive or not.**

**The current system leaves teachers, the DOE and the State exposed to serious legal repercussions by not warning minors of the possible consequences of engaging in sexual activity whether “they feel they’re ready” or not.**

**HB 459 should be amended to require the teaching of legal consequences.** The possible legal ramifications for engaging in sexual conduct as found in the curricula should be fully disclosed to parents so that they can make an informed choice whether they want their child exposed to teachings that may endanger their child.

The information being put into the minds of children, by definition too young to make calculated, discerning, responsible decisions, endangers the child. In essence, it’s like giving a child matches, cigarette lighters and blow torches to play with, without ever mentioning safety and safe use. How to put on a condom will not protect a child from legal consequences.

The potential for serious harm to children would require that the sex-ed curricula be offered only to those students whose parents are fully aware of the ramifications and choose to allow their children to participate. In other words, sex-ed should be “opt-in” requiring parental consent and indemnification.

Without full legal disclosure, the current curricula place everyone from the child on up in jeopardy. **Please amend HB 459.**

Respectfully,

Leon Siu  
Director, The ‘Ohana Project  
Hawaii Family Coalition



February 25, 2015

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair; Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair; Representative Roy M. Takumi, Chair; and Representative Takashi Ono, Vice Chair; and  
Members of the **House Committees on Education and Health**

From: Dr. Susan J. Wurtzburg  
Policy Chair, **American Association of University Women – Hawaii**

Re. **Testimony in Support, HB 459, Relating to Health (specifically, Sexuality Health Education)**

I am grateful for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 459 HD 1 (with one suggested change back to opt-out), requiring that public schools provide medically accurate, age appropriate health education. My testimony is on behalf of the approximately 400 members of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in Hawai'i, who list choice and women's reproductive health as an important current concern. My testimony is informed by my experiences teaching at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, where, almost every semester, a female student in one of my classes finds herself dealing with an unplanned pregnancy. No doubt, many of my students also discover that they are harboring sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Although this is not something that they share with me, it is an obvious correlate of high STI rates across Hawai'i combined with inadequate health education.

On behalf of all these constituencies, I argue that passage of HB 459 is important, with great potential to decrease STIs and unplanned pregnancy rates across the state. A bill which encourages medically accurate, age appropriate discussion about body maturation processes, emotional growth, and reproductive health is an important step in encouraging youth to move forward into enjoyable, healthy adult lives.

While it would be wonderful to assume that this discussion would take place in Hawaiian homes, realistically, this does not happen. I have taught thousands of university-level students over the years, and only a handful of these students ever mentioned receiving accurate sexual education from their parents or guardians. Since my teaching portfolio includes many courses covering sex, gender, and gender violence, these class conversations occurred in the course of university educational fora and were particularly shocking to me, since my parents did discuss these issues with me, for which I am grateful.

It is ironic that more parents don't discuss sexual health, maturation, and relationship topics with their children regularly, given that most children are accessing information and misinformation from the World Wide Web fairly easily. In a 2007 University of Alberta study, 90% of boys and 70% of girls (aged 13-14 years) stated that they had viewed sexually explicit items online at least once. A 2007 article in *Pediatrics* (Wolak et al.) found that 13% of youthful internet users, aged 13-17 years were purposefully locating X-rated online sites. There is ample evidence that youth are educating themselves from highly inappropriate, inaccurate sources, and in this well-connected world, age appropriate, medically accurate sexuality education for each and every child in Hawaiian schools is long overdue. Body knowledge is just as important as reading, mathematics, and other subjects taught in educational settings, and should be taught in a similar straightforward manner, as occurs in other first-world nations.

I am very disappointed that the current version of the bill (i.e., HB 459 HD 1) has changed the opt-out terms of the original bill to an opt-in modus operandi. This is not good public health provision, since it means that disengaged, disorganized parents' inability to return paperwork will result in their children missing out on information key to their future success. This means that the children most in need of sexual health education will not receive it, which does not bode well for rates of unplanned parenthood or sexually transmitted infections. Life is difficult enough for children living in chaotic home environments, and these youth do not need additional challenges. Please return to an opt-out provision in the bill. This is responsive to those parents who do not wish their children to be educated, while not penalizing children from chaotic homes.

In conclusion, passage of HB 459 HD 1 (please with a change to opt-out) is an important step toward improved health for teens and young adults, and ultimately, the wider Hawaiian population.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**GAY LESBIAN  
BISEXUAL AND  
TRANSGENDER  
CAUCUS**



**DEMOCRATIC  
PARTY OF HAWAII**

Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education

Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Chair

Rep. Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair

Rep. Henry J.C. Aquino

Rep. Isaac W. Choy

Rep. Linda Ichiyama

Rep. Kaniela Ing

Rep. Ken Ito

Rep. Sam Satoru Kong

Rep. Matthew S. LoPresti

Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say

Rep. Clift Tsuji

Rep. Lauren K. Matsumoto

Rep. Andria P.L. Tupola

Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 p.m.

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 309

**IN SUPPORT OF H.B. 459 HD1**

H.B. 459 HD1 ensures that all public school students receive comprehensive sexual health education. Currently, Hawaii's teens rank lowest in the nation for any type of birth control to prevent pregnancy during intercourse. Hawaii's teen pregnancy rate is 9<sup>th</sup> highest in the country.

As children approach puberty and in their early teens, students get sex education – whether it is from a class or from talking story with friends.

The purpose of this bill is to provide comprehensive sex education, grounded in peer-reviewed science and age appropriate. Medically-accurate sex education is quite literally an investment in our children's future.

Hawaii residents support sexual health education. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of participants said it was important to include sexual health education in their curriculum.<sup>1</sup> The majority of participants didn't feel that parents provided sufficient information. A majority also believed that sexual health education should begin in middle school, with topics such as anatomy, puberty, and sexual abuse in elementary school.

While parents are children's primary sex educators, most parents feel that they need support.

Ideally, sexual health education would be taught each year from kindergarten through 12th grade. Hawaii's youth deserve and need the best, most effective health education. H.B. 459 will ensure that students have the information and tools they need to make healthy, safe and responsible decisions.

Very truly yours,

Jo-Ann M. Adams  
Legislative Liaison

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<sup>1</sup> 2012 survey conducted by SMS Research



February 23, 2015

House Committee on Education  
Representative Roy Takumi, Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol

**Re: H.B. 459, HD1 Relating to Health**  
**Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 pm., Room 309**

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee on Education:

Hawai'i Women Lawyers submits this testimony in **strong support** of H.B. 459, HD1. This bill would provide for clear guidelines for schools and require additional criteria to be included in sexual health education instruction.

This measure will promote the health and safety of our youth by ensuring that all public school students receive comprehensive sexual health education. It also provides a clear guideline for the development and providing of sexual education by schools. At the same time, the bill allows the schools to account for age appropriateness and provides flexibility in the implementation of the new sexual education instruction criteria.

Hawaii teens have one of the lowest rates of contraceptive use in the country. Age appropriate and medically accurate education is critical to helping our young people with the information, skills and support they need to make healthy life decisions about their sexuality. Comprehensive sex education is a critical investment in the future and well-being of our youth.

Hawai'i Women Lawyers is committed to enhancing the status of women and providing equal opportunities for all of Hawai'i's people, and believes this measure will help to address an important aspect of the development of our young people in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of this bill.

Sincerely,

Tricia M. Nakamatsu, President



Comprehensive sexual health education is a systematic and layered education process that supports youth and their families and helps them acquire the sexual health-related information, skills, and motivation necessary to act in ways that are congruent with their values. While parents and guardians are their children's primary sex educators, the majority of them feel that they need support and/or professional expertise to lead the way. Schools, as well as faith groups and community-based organizations, all have roles to play. In fact, the nature of our education system in America puts schools in the ideal position to take the lead in this process.

Ideally, sexual health education would be taught each year in our schools from kindergarten through 12th grade. Like all school subjects, the information and skills that are taught are age-appropriate, reflect best-practice, and build on the previous year's learning. According to the late Dr. Douglas Kirby, senior research scientist for ETR Associates in Scotts Valley, CA, and a nonpartisan expert on the effectiveness of school and community programs in the reduction of adolescent sexual risk-taking behaviors, (Public Health Reports, 190 (1997), 339-360) effective sex education:

- uses behavioral goals, teaching methods, and resources that are age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate, and culturally competent
- is based on theoretical approaches that have been proven to be effective
- takes place over sufficient time to cover necessary topics and skills
- employs a variety of teaching methodologies that present the content in ways that make it relevant to the student
- provides basic, accurate information about the risks of unprotected sexual intercourse and how to avoid unprotected sexual intercourse
- includes activities that address peer pressure and cultural pressure
- practices decision making, communication, negotiation, and refusal skills
- utilizes teachers who are well-trained, comfortable, and believe in the program

Hawaii's youth deserve the best and most effective health education and H.B. 459 will go far to ensure that students have the information and tools they need to make healthy, safe and responsible decisions.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



February 25, 2015

To: Representative Roy Takumi, Chair  
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair and  
Members of the Committee on Education

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta, Co-Chair

RE: HB 459 HD1 Relating to Health  
Hearing: Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 p.m., Room 309

POSITION: Strong Support

The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus writes in support of HB 459 HD1 Relating to Health, which would ensure that all public school students receive the most effective sexual health education. Effectiveness and quality of sexual health education affects the health outcomes for Hawai'i's youth.

Currently, Hawai'i's teens rank lowest in the nation for condom use and have high rates of sexually transmitted diseases. Hawai'i's youth also rank lowest in the nation for use of any type of birth control to prevent pregnancy during intercourse. The consequences are severe — Hawai'i's teen pregnancy rate is 9<sup>th</sup> highest in the country and costs Hawai'i taxpayers around \$32 million per year.<sup>1</sup>

The goal of comprehensive sex education is to promote health and well-being in a way that is developmentally appropriate. Medically accurate sex education is an investment in our children's future well-being. By providing effective sex education, we will have a generation of young people who have heard more helpful messages about sexual health than the provocative media images they currently witness. This generation will be able to make well-informed, responsible decisions; form healthy relationships; and take care of their bodies.

Hawai'i residents have shown that they support sexual health education in our public schools. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of participants stated that it was important for Hawai'i public schools to include sexual health education in their curriculum in a 2012 survey conducted by SMS Research. While only half of the participants felt prepared to talk about sexual health with their youth, the majority of participants didn't feel that parents or schools were providing a sufficient amount of sexual health information. A majority also believed that education on most sexual health topics should begin in the middle schools, with some topics (such as anatomy, puberty, and sexual abuse) beginning in the elementary schools.

Hawai'i's youth deserve the best and most effective health education. We ask that the committee pass this measure and thank the committee for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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<sup>1</sup> [thenationalcampaign.org](http://thenationalcampaign.org)



## Hawaii Women's Coalition

### **Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education**

Date Wednesday, February 25, 2015,

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: Rm. 309

### **The Hawaii Women's Coalition has STRONG SUPPORT FOR HB 459 HD1**

Aloha Dear Chair Takumi and Members,

"Health education" as it was known in my youth, was taught in every public school at or before the onset of puberty. We walked away from the class tittering, but with real knowledge of the "facts of life" to counteract the misinformation we were feeding one another in our respective locker rooms. That we now find ourselves in a political climate where the health and wellbeing of our youth is at risk because a certain segment of the population believes that if you don't tell teens about sex they won't do, it is both sad and laughable.

This is especially true since the advent of easy access to explicit sex on the Internet. If accurate sex education is not taught in our public schools then teens WILL get their information, not just in locker rooms, but most certainly from the Internet.

Relying on parents to provide "the talk" won't work well to address this public health issue for many reasons. First, parents are often misinformed themselves.

(If you think this is farfetched check out this bit from the Daily Show. "Jordan Klepper discusses sex education with a group of Las Vegas teens determined to know all the awkward facts about sex." <http://www.hulu.com/watch/750221>)

Then there's the fact that many parents are working multiple jobs to staying afloat and are too tired at the end of the day to have that talk. Finally, and don't underestimate this one, there's the embarrassment factor, both from kids and parents.

Here are some facts that demonstrate the cost of spotty, inaccurate sex education:

Currently, Hawaii's teens rank lowest in the nation for condom use and for use of any type of birth control to prevent pregnancy during intercourse. The consequences are severe — Hawaii's teen pregnancy rate is 9<sup>th</sup> highest in the country and costs Hawaii taxpayers around \$32 million per year. The opposition points out that the pregnancy rate among teens has decreased, but that does NOT mean that sex education wouldn't help reduce it even further. The goal for unwanted teen pregnancy should be zero. Moreover there is the issue of STDs; some that last for a lifetime and some that are deadly.

Public opinion polls show that most Americans support sex education. Parents and students want sex education. In fact, a recent survey shows that Hawaii residents support sexual health education in our public schools. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of participants stated that it was important for public schools to include sexual health education in their curriculum in a 2012 survey conducted by SMS Research.

While only half of the participants felt prepared to talk about sexual health with their youth, the majority of participants didn't feel that parents or schools were providing a sufficient amount of sexual health information. A majority also believed that education on most sexual health topics should begin in the middle schools, with some topics (such as anatomy, puberty, and sexual abuse) beginning in the elementary schools.

Please don't let our youth suffer in dangerous ignorance any longer than they already have. They deserve a complete education that includes medically accurate sex education.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Ann S. Freed Co-Chair, Hawaii Women's Coalition  
Contact: [annsfreed@gmail.com](mailto:annsfreed@gmail.com) Phone: 808-623-5676



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Executive Director

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## TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 459, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO HEALTH

House Committee on Education  
Hon. Roy M. Takumi, Chair  
Hon. Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Honorable Chair Takumi and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 300 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of HB 459, HD 1, relating to health.

This bill codifies into law medically-accurate sexual education programming guidelines, including the provision of information about healthy and nonviolent relationships. This directly impacts our youth's susceptibility to sex trafficking, since traffickers engage in a variety of "grooming" practices to induce unhealthy sexual relationships with underage victims and subsequently coerce them into commercial sexual exploitation. Education is key to preventing sex trafficking, yet no standardized lessons on trafficking are included in departmental health curricula. As you're undoubtedly aware, human trafficking is a problem on our shores. Approximately 110,000 advertisements for Hawaii-based prostitution are posted online each year, many of which feature locations that exploit school age children. According to a recent IMUAlliance study, Hawai'i hosts roughly 150 high-risk sex-trafficking establishments. Sadly, Moanalua and Campbell High Schools were recently home to a sex- trafficking ring involving several teenage girls, culminating in a pending criminal case against three individuals for promoting prostitution.

It is imperative that we improve sexual health curricula to promote the safety of our keiki. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,  
Kris Coffield  
*Executive Director*  
IMUAlliance

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aurora Lemke	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Comprehensive sexual health education is a systematic and layered education process that supports youth and their families and helps them acquire the sexual health-related information, skills, and motivation necessary to act in ways that are congruent with their values. While parents and guardians are their children's primary sex educators, the majority of them feel that they need support and/or professional expertise to lead the way. Schools, as well as faith groups and community-based organizations, all have roles to play. In fact, the nature of our education system in America puts schools in the ideal position to take the lead in this process. Hawaii's youth deserve the best and most effective health education and H.B. 459 will go far to ensure that students have the information and tools they need to make healthy, safe and responsible decisions. Thank you.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joan Rich	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It's 2015. Children should learn about how their bodies work and how to stay healthy. Please pass this bill! Mahalo.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Amy Cook	Individual	Support	No



Aloha Education Committee,

February 23, 2015

My Name is Irene Leger and I am a parent of children in Elementary, Intermediate, and High School public schools. I am also a high school Math teacher in the DOE.

I am asking that you vote No on HB 459 HD1 and do not pass this Draft as it is written. It is poorly written and it needs to be stated very clearly that this bill is an opt-in bill. If you plan to give DOE or teachers the power to do what is started in Section 2) Please take the time to figure out what curriculum is already in place, and then decide what standards and curriculum need to be changed. The pregnancy rate in Hawaii high schools has been decreasing. Why are you going to change something that does not need to be fixed or improved upon?

I am also concerned about the Opt-In and Opt-Out policy. I do not support Opt-Out and I feel that you should make it very clear in Section 2 that this policy will only affect student and their parent who choose to opt in.

Section 2 g) is the only place that it speaks about Opt-in, please make it more clear in every single part of Section 2 – a), b), c), d), e), f), and g).

Allowing teachers in Section 2 – c) to use **“...their own discretion, teachers may answer in good faith any question initiated by a student or students that is reasonably related to and consistent with the material of a course provided pursuant to subsection (a).”**

If I have not allowed my child to opt in and another student ask a question about “reasonably related material”, and the teacher decides to use their own discretion and answer that question in front of my child, my child’s rights will be violated.

In this section you are also setting the teacher up for failure. You are literally turning every single classroom into a sex ed classroom.

In Section b) & d) it states that sex ed will be taught in elementary schools. BE MORE SPECIFIC. I do not support my 1<sup>st</sup> grade child learning about sex. In Section 1) It states **“The legislature finds that sexuality health education promotes healthy attitudes on adolescent growth and**

**development, body image, gender and sexuality, dating, relationships, and family. The legislature also finds that sexuality health education should positively affect adolescent behavior and provide teens with the information, skills, and support they need to develop positive values, make healthy decisions, and respect the important role that sexuality plays throughout a person’s life.”**

This is false. I Have taught kindergarten, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, intermediate, and High school. And there is no reason why anyone at an elementary age needs to be learning about sex as it is defined by the legislature. Again, be more specific with age and what can be taught.. or what exact standards need to learned so that we as a public can actually see what your vision is with this bill before you create a bill that allows people to interpret differently from what you have written.

Thank You,

Irene Leger

P O Box 158 Laie Hi 96762

808-769-7925

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Natalie Wallsgrove	Individual	Support	No

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sara Perry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: While I feel that the intent of this Bill is righteous, I find that sexual education in elementary schools, even termed to be "age appropriate", is still much too 'over the heads' of children that young. I disagree that any sexual education should be taught in elementary schools on the grounds that children of that age just do not understand those sorts of topics. In intermediate and high school curriculums, yes: those are relevant and important topics of discussion. I ask that this bill be amended to remove any elementary schools from having sexual education curriculum type programs. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. Mahalo, Sara E. Perry

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: It is a complete disservice to the youth in our communities to not give them honest, accurate, real-current-life information. How can anyone make a healthy decision without all the information? Knowledge gives individuals power to make better decisions!

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ben Tamamoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill as I do not believe it is the role of the State to provide sex education to Elementary or Middle aged children. Because of the many different value systems of our island families, there should not be a "one size fits all" solution. Please invest the time into ensuring that our keiki have the basics covered. The test scores in reading, writing, and math that I've come across do not seem to show that we are doing this.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jamie Louis	Individual	Support	No

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No



TESTIMONY to House Committee on Health

H.B. 459 Relating to Health

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

2 PM - State Capitol Conference Room 309

Submitted in OPPOSITION by: Susan Duffy, Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Chair Takumi; Vice Chair Ohno

I strongly OPPOSE HB 459. This bill is not needed and no one said it better than our own state Superintendent of Education who, in her testimony before the Health Committee wrote, "As there are existing policies and resources in place to address this area, the department respectfully suggests that this measure is not necessary at this time." Why is the state legislature not listening to the comments by the Superintendent of the DOE?

The premise of this bill is not supported by the most recent findings in neuroscience. Comprehensive sex education will do more harm than good. Dr.'s Joe S. McIlhaney and Feda McKissic Bush recently published book, *Hooked: New Science on How Casual Sex is Affecting Our Children*, specifically documents the breakthroughs in research regarding the chemical changes that occur in the brain with regard to sex, sexual images, sexual activity, sex education, etc. The book is a must read for every professional educator, pastor, teen and policy maker. The fact is, neuroscience is demonstrating that these devastating sex education programs, far from being promoted, need to be stopped.

Dr. McIlhaney, one of the book's authors, testified before Congress on the American STD epidemic. He specifically stated that:

*Despite what you may sometimes hear, there is no abundance of evidence that "dual message" or "comprehensive" programs are effective at preventing teen pregnancies and STDs. In fact, there is precious little evidence that these programs are really successful at all. Proponents of dual message programs face the same problems today as they have for many years -- an inability to document tangible success in protecting adolescent health. And to whatever extent these programs give young people the impression that "sex is really not a big concern, as long as you 'protect yourself'," such programs may even contribute to the problem.*

<http://www.orthodoxytoday.org/articles/McIlhaneyAbstinenceCongress.php>

Dr. Melvin Anchell's psychoanalytic look at sex education was written well before Dr. McIlhaney's testimony before Congress. Dr. Anchell called the sorts of sex

education programs being pushed back then as being “horrendously devastating” to children.

<http://www.stopp.org/article.php?id=7206>

This bill also carries an inherent anti-family bias and assumes that the state has to step in to do what is a parent's job. The primary teachers of children are their parents. It is their right and their responsibility to teach sexual morality to their children.

“What is taught behind the closed doors of the sex ed classroom can never be known by parents. Learner outcomes and curriculum objectives do not tell parents the teacher's words, actions, attitudes, and responses that occur as the sex ed lesson is actually taught. This means there is absolutely no way parents can control - or even find out - what their children are being taught about sex unless they sit in the classroom alongside their children for each and every sex lesson.”

<http://catholicparents.org/religiouseducation/opposesexed.html>

Comprehensive sex education (CSE) takes away parents rights to say what their children should learn about sexuality.

“The public school has no right to judge the quality of information on sexuality that parents provide their children. Some do a good job, some do a poor job. The school has no right to say they must teach sex because they don't like the job parents do. The school should stay out of the bedroom.”

<http://catholicparents.org/religiouseducation/opposesexed.html>

CSE grooms children for abuse by breaking down natural inhibitions and teaching them they can consent to sexual acts at a very young age.

CSE is “sex positive” and teaches that children have a right to pleasurable sex. What is so disturbing is nearly all of today's “comprehensive sex education” curricula are derived from the criminally fraudulent research of Dr. Alfred Kinsey.

<http://www.lifenews.com/2012/10/28/like-alfred-kinsey-obama-hhs-grooming-children-for-sex/>

The real aim of comprehensive sex education is to break down traditional morality and sexual inhibitions in favor of actually encouraging sexual experience for young children.

This is not something we should be doing to the keiki of Hawaii.

Please do not pass this bill.



**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristen Tuifua	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill. It is not up to the education system to take on something that is so emotional and turn it into another "subject" at school. It takes the meaning out of it. Statistics have shown that pregnancy and stds are on the rise in areas where this type of education is in place. It is pornographic, and ruining the minds of our children. It is setting them up to be preyed upon, and to "consent" to grotesque acts at ages that are much younger. It is also encouraging them to find ways to "explore". This type of curriculum makes pedophilia and abuse "ok". WHEN IT IS NOT OK. These kinds of decisions about sexuality should be made in adulthood, not in primary school. These are adult behaviors being passed as "education". That is not the type of education I'm paying taxes for you to teach my children. I strongly oppose this bill, and encourage you to truly think about the consequences of passing such. Thank you.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
L.M. Holmes	Individual	Support	No

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
PJ Long III	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Once again, lawmakers are trying to pass an unpopular bill against the will of the people. Families all across the State have voiced opposition to "Pono Choices" in Sex Ed, as well as the "Age Appropriateness" language in this bill. Who is it that determines "Age Appropriate?" And why do you feel that their opinion should outweigh mine as a parent? I was satisfied with the Opt-In language adopted last year but apparently that's not good enough for Planned Parenthood since it's back up for discussion this year. I have severe reservations with Planned Parenthood's involvement in public policy and urge the committee to vote down this measure. Although I appreciate the time & opportunity to give my opinion, I have to say it's frustrating to have similar battles year after year. It seems that if a big money entity comes to town with a particular agenda, it doesn't really matter what the people want, the majority will give it to them.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rita Kama-Kimura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I continue to oppose this bill "HB 459" With all due respect, we are counting on our elected officials to keep our children safe. This bill does not do that, and I believe you are all aware of this. So for the sake of our children I say stop this bill now ... and let's have a real honest discussion.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tia pearson	Individual	Support	No



February 24, 2015

To: The Education Committee  
Hearing Date & Time: Wednesday, February 25, 2015, @:00 p.m., Conference Room 309  
Re: Strong Opposition to HB 459

Dear Chairman Roy Takumi & Members of the Education Committee:

I am writing TO STRONGLY VOICE MY OPPOSITION TO BILL HB 45 for the following reasons.

1. CSE takes away parental rights to say what their children learn about sexuality.
2. CSE grooms children for abuse by breaking down natural inhibitions and teaching them they can consent to sexual acts at a very young age.
3. CSE is "sex positive" and teaches children have a right to pleasurable sex.
4. CSE is morally bankrupt. It is based on what a student feels he or she is "ready" for in the sexual realm, after instruction on how to have sex.
5. CSE curricula are highly guarded. Parents are not allowed to view the full curriculum and instructional materials in privacy.
6. CSE only pays lip service to abstinence; it encourages sexual activity.
7. CSE normalizes dangerous and perverse sex acts like sadomasochism.
8. Planned Parenthood—the nation's largest abortion chain—develops, promotes and profits from CSE.
9. CSE is being pushed on students as young as 11 years old in Hawaii.
10. CSE is totally unproven. There are no scientifically sound study that validate any claims made by promoters of CSE. Children are being used as guinea pigs.
11. CSE hinges on the belief that children are sexual from birth, an idea promulgated by serial child molester, Alfred Kinsey.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Robert Akoi, Jr.  
55-670 B Naniloa Loop  
Laiea HI 96762  
Email: akoib@polynesia.com

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Poulos	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha Representatives, I support HB459 with reservations. I am favor of the bill because it states that parents must "Opt-in". I believe this would give parents greater control over sensitive materials being taught to their children. The parent is the best person to determine what is age appropriate material for their child. I do not agree that we need to have comprehensive sexual health taught in elementary schools. Also, much of the material being created does not agree with many parents' values. We need to have a system that does not force our children to be taught what their family does not believe. Furthermore, we need to establish alternative curriculum that provides information parents agree with and credit hours earned needed for graduation. If we say we are allowing students to "opt-in" or "opt-out" but then require the credit for high school graduation and provide no other alternative, we have not given parents an option at all. I support HB 459 in the "opt-in" process, but believe we need to provide a means for high school students to earn the credits they need if they do not "opt-in" the program. Mahalo for your time, Lisa Poulos

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Diedra Ulii	Individual	Oppose	No

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kimberly Marquez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill that gives parents more access to the curriculum that will be used for the sensitive subject sex education for their children. It also gives them the choice to opt in if they would like their children to participate.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laura Pickard	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to HB459!

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Valerie Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I write in strong support of HB459. Once my son reaches the age of instruction, I do have an expectation that he will be informed with medically-accurate and age appropriate sexual health education, uncompromised by biases that view sex within the paradigm of reproduction. This perspective fails to include other behaviors and circumstances in which STI's can occur, particularly those intended to circumvent pregnancy. It also fails to help students recognize the different ways in which sexual and emotional abuse can occur. This particular aspect is of great concern to me, especially because children may be victimized before the onset of puberty when their own sexual awareness begins to develop. Pono Choices can help students learn to protect themselves by making smarter choices in situations where their parents most assuredly will not be present to intervene.

Furthermore, I believe the purpose of Pono Choices is not to stigmatize or place value judgments upon either the students themselves or the types of sexual behavior they engage in, but to place equal value upon the sexual health and safety of each and every student. I appreciate that this program is cognizant of the potential to create a false sense of invulnerability among students if they are misled into believing that identity or orientation is the predominate variable of risk rather their own individual behaviors.

I also support an opt-out provision to better ensure that more kids are aware of their ability to harm not just themselves, but others - others like my own kid. Not unlike children who are deliberately unvaccinated, an uneducated pool of students can impact the health and safety of those with whom they interact. Equipping our kids with science-based, medically-accurate facts is the best way to promote the mutual safety and protection of our children.

In closing, I would hope that the level of discussion this program has generated from both opponents and supporters has encouraged many of us to address the topic of sexuality health education with an honesty and maturity level befitting that of parents and adults.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wendy Pagador	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am in opposition of this bill. I understand it will be a more liberal sex education program. I understand it will contain education about alternatives to sex that are against our family's standards. I also understand that while they are promoted as medically safe they may not be. I also feel that age appropriateness by society is on a different scale to myself as a parent when it comes to sex. (e.g. movie censorship ratings have changed over the years - why are these things age appropriate now when they weren't before?) With this bill I feel it is someone else outside our family who is deciding when my child learns about sex, how, why and with whom. Furthermore, the questions that may arise (if even asked in a group setting) will be answered by someone else with different values to our family. I understand that everybody has different values about sex. My children will develop their own eventually, but as a parent, I would like to teach them, in a way that is acceptable to our own family. I believe each family and their children should have a right to decide what they are exposed to in this nature at school. While there may be an opt in/out feature, I feel that there will be many parents that may not understand to what their children will be exposed, and easily sign off a permission slip. Again I am in opposition to this bill.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Yasuhara Patti	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Chairs, I'm a Mother of an 11yr.old daughter and I oppose the Pono choice curriculum being used for sex ed. in our Public school system. I support a Health/Anatomy Education Class that is age appropriate, has accurate abstinence teaching, STD, Aids information, has accurate health body growth anatomy and is parent inclusive. Thank you for considering my testimony, Patti Yasuhara Honolulu, Hi 96825



## Submitted Online Testimony – HB459 Against

Comprehensive Sex Education takes away parents rights to say what their children learn about sexuality. Comprehensive Sex Education grooms children for abuse by breaking down natural inhibitions and teaching them they can consent to sexual acts at a very young age.

Comprehensive Sex Education is “sex positive” and teaches children have a right to pleasurable sex.

Comprehensive Sex Education is morally bankrupt. It is based on what a student feels he or she is “ready” for in the sexual realm, after instruction on how to have sex.

Comprehensive Sex Education curricula are highly guarded. Parents are not allowed to view the full curriculum and instructional materials in privacy.

Comprehensive Sex Education only pays lip service to abstinence; it encourages sexual activity.

Comprehensive Sex Education normalizes dangerous and perverse sex acts like sadomasochism.

Planned Parenthood—the nation’s largest abortion chain—develops, promotes and profits from Comprehensive Sex Education.

Comprehensive Sex Education is being pushed on students as young as 11 years old in Hawaii.

Comprehensive Sex Education is totally unproven. There are no scientifically sound study that validate any claims made by promoters of CSE. Children are being used as guinea pigs.

Comprehensive Sex Education hinges on the belief that children are sexual from birth, an idea promulgated by serial child molester, Alfred Kinsey. Dr. Alfred Kinsey was a pervert who asserted that children are sexual from birth. He was a sexual psychopath who abused and experimented on infants as young as 2 months old. What is so disturbing is that nearly ALL of today’s liberal “comprehensive sex education” curricula are derived from the criminally fraudulent research of this homosexual pervert.

According to Dr. Judith Reisman, these so-called sex ed programs are doing to children, constructively, what pedophiles do to “groom” them for sex.

<http://www.lifenews.com/2012/10/28/like-alfred-kinsey-obama-hhs-grooming-children-for-sex/>

“According to the FBI, child molesters:

- Demonstrate sex acts to children. Offenders commonly use pornography to teach or give instructions to naïve children about how to masturbate, perform oral sex and/or engage in sexual intercourse.
- Lower the sexual inhibitions of children. Some children naturally fear sexual activities. Some offenders show pictures of other children engaging in sexual activities to overcome these fears, indicating to their intended victims that it is all right to have sex with an adult because lots of other boys and girls do the same thing.
- Desensitize children to sex. Offenders commonly show child pornography to their intended victims to expose them to sexual acts before they are naturally curious about such activities.
- Sexually arouse children. Offenders commonly use pornographic images of other children to arouse victims, particularly those in adolescence.

"...today's Kinseyan-based sex education – as promoted by Obama's HHS – does much of what the FBI describes above. Graphic sexual images and explicit "values neutral" talk of sex and sexuality are rampant throughout classrooms across America, effectively desensitizing children and numbing their natural inhibitions. These inhibitions help protect children from potential predators.

According to Dr. Reisman, "the brain data fully support [the] finding" that such "sex education" literally changes the neural pathways of a child's brain. There is mounting scientific evidence to support this hypothesis.

Anthony Clah

As a parent with children in the public school elementary system I oppose this bill because of the following reasons:

1. It is not the government's responsibility to determine at what age a child is able to understand and process sexual matters especially in the elementary school.
2. Government is again suppressing my religious freedom by saying the same sex relationships are okay and will now with this bill say to my children that it is normal when I believe it is not. I definitely do not want my son to be told that anal sex with another man is okay (and/or same gender marriage). We have reiterated to him what the world teaches and what God teaches.

As a parent I should have the right to help develop my child's ethical, moral, and spiritual values allowing them to be respectful and contributing citizens. Yes, sexual education is important (abstinence, disease prevention, and etc.) but government should not decide for me and/or my children what is sexually normal or acceptable.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ualani Nagy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I wholeheartedly am opposed to this bill and reject it! Please do not allow this bill to go forward as it infringes on my rights as a citizen. I do not want a curriculum that teaches my children about homosexuality in schools.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Renee Cabrinha	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to the bill mandating that the Department of Education schools provide sex education—starting as young as elementary school. I also oppose that it grants teachers discretion on answering sex education questions—answers which might not be documented in the curriculum materials. Further, I am opposed to the bill’s prohibition against discrimination based on “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” because it could mean that such lifestyles will be discussed in class—but without a full disclosure of the hazardous health consequences of homosexual behavior and transgender surgery. Please consider your long term affects on the keiki of Hawaii. Please oppose this bill!

February 24, 2015

Aloha,

Thank you for your time in reading my testimony.

I am a parent of a 5th grader and I do not approve of the Public Schools teaching my child about anal sex or oral sex. That is inappropriate for my son to be hearing. Both anal sex and oral sex are unsafe and a humiliating form of sex. Which in my opinion is not real sex at all. Teaching this would teach children wrong ideas of what real sex is. That is what I believe this bill will do for all kids.

I believe all elementary school children should not have to learn such explicit details of sex education. They are not ready for this type of learning. There are studies that show it to be harmful. It would be so much better for a child to NOT learn sex education at all, until the middle school years, but even then, they do not need to learn such graphic sexual content. Anal sex and oral sex are not normal. Some people may practice those types of acts, but I believe for the majority of people it is not normal. It appears to me that the schools would be teaching pornography in schools if this is allowed.

Passing this bill would clearly take my rights away and clearly harm our children, and our state. I strongly oppose this bill.

Thank you,

Grace Alarcio

91-1156 Hoomahana Street

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anita Randall-Packer	Individual	Support	No

February 24, 2015

To: House Committee on Education

From: Cheryl Toyofuku, Pearl City, HI

Re: Opposition to HB 459 Relating to Health, Comprehensive Sex Education

Hearing: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 2:00 pm., Room 309

Chairman Takumi and House Education Committee,

As a parent, grandparent, registered nurse, health advocate and concerned citizen of Hawaii, I am in strong opposition to Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) in the schools. Any current policy in place for any type of sex education should remain "opt in".

Required CSE removes and undermines parental rights in educating about sexuality according to their own family's values and morals. Unsolicited explicit sexual information given to very young impressionable children is certainly not age appropriate and it is not consistent with state statues and policies. Many parents have made their opinions very clear that they want their children protected from a state promotion of objectionable sex education programs and inappropriate messages in schools

CSE, like Pono Choices, is presented under the guise of STD (sexually transmitted disease) prevention, yet negligently or by willful omission fails to educate on the high risks of the sexual acts that it is "educating" or "informing" its young students on. Credible research documentation reveals that many so called sex education programs are agendas exposing young children to information that are similar to what pedophiles do to "groom" them for sex.

While "abstinence" is covered in the teaching, the term "abstinence-based" is a misnomer for CSE since it is NOT the central message of the curriculum. This gives mixed messages to what is "pono" or right. "Gender ambiguous" fictional scenarios included in many CSE curriculums greatly aggravate the confusion that is stirred in growing young minds.

Parents are the primary educators for their children and a full review of curriculum material should be presented to them. Yet, it was very difficult for an elected official to obtain the contents of the Pono Choices curriculum. It is very disconcerting that many CSE curricula are highly guarded. It is also to be noted that Planned Parenthood, our country's largest abortion chain, helps to develop, promote and profit from comprehensive sex education.

Lastly, what are the legal ramifications for teachers or the state for teaching sexual practices to young children and youngsters who are caught or reported for acting out what they were taught? Please oppose HB 459 and DO NOT let it come out of your committee.



**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danny Melton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: House Committee on Education I oppose this bill for the following reasons: 1. CSE takes away parents rights to say what their children learn about sexuality. 2. CSE grooms children for abuse by breaking down natural inhibitions and teaching them they can consent to sexual acts at a very young age. 3. CSE is "sex positive" and teaches children have a right to pleasurable sex. 4. CSE is morally bankrupt. It is based on what a student feels he or she is "ready" for in the sexual realm, after instruction on how to have sex. 5. CSE curricula are highly guarded. Parents are not allowed to view the full curriculum and instructional materials in privacy. 6. CSE only pays lip service to abstinence; it encourages sexual activity. 7. CSE normalizes dangerous and perverse sex acts like sadomasochism. 8. Planned Parenthood—the nation's largest abortion chain—develops, promotes and profits from CSE. 9. CSE is being pushed on students as young as 11 years old in Hawaii. 10. CSE is totally unproven. There are no scientifically sound study that validate any claims made by promoters of CSE. Children are being used as guinea pigs. 11. CSE hinges on the belief that children are sexual from birth. Dr. Alfred Kinsey asserted that children are sexual from birth. His questionable research put children a risk. What is so disturbing is that nearly ALL of today's "comprehensive sex education" curricula are derived from the his fraudulent research. According to Dr. Judith Reisman, these so-called sex ed programs are doing to children, constructively, what pedophiles do to "groom" them for sex. <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/alfred-kinsey-was-a-pervert-and-a-sex-criminal> <http://www.lifenews.com/2012/10/28/like-alfred-kinsey-obama-hhs-grooming-children-for-sex/> "According to the FBI, child molesters: - Demonstrate sex acts to children. Offenders commonly use pornography to teach or give instructions to naïve children about how to masturbate, perform oral sex and/or engage in sexual intercourse. - Lower the sexual inhibitions of children. Some children naturally fear sexual activities. Some offenders show pictures of other children engaging in sexual activities to overcome these fears, indicating to their intended victims that it is all right to have sex with an adult because lots of other boys and girls do the same thing. - Desensitize children to sex. Offenders commonly show child pornography to their intended victims to expose them to sexual acts before they are naturally curious about such activities. - Sexually arouse children. Offenders commonly use pornographic images of other children to arouse victims, particularly those in adolescence. "...today's Kinseyan-based sex education – as promoted by the Obama administration HHS – does much of what the FBI describes above. Graphic sexual images and explicit "values neutral" talk of sex and sexuality are rampant throughout classrooms across America, effectively desensitizing children and numbing their natural inhibitions. These inhibitions help protect children from potential predators." Please kill this bill.

Respectfully,  
Danny Melton Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps (retired)  
Waipahu, HI 96797

TO: Representative Takumi Chair, Representative Ohno Vice Chair and other Representatives on the Education Committee

FROM: David Willweber. Masters in Family Life Ministry  
Husband. Father of 3 in the D.O.E.  
Community member on the School Community Council at Kainalu EI  
Pastor of Mauka Makai Ministries—Windward  
Vice President of P.E.A.C.E. HI

RE: Testimony in opposition to HB459

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns about HB 459. I oppose this bill and encourage you to do the same.

There are points of agreement that we share. . .concern for Hawaii's keiki, student health particularly relating to sexuality, concern for young people engaging in sexual activity resulting in S.T.D.'s (S.T.I.'s), more pregnancies and hurting their chances for pregnancy later because of S.T.I.'s, young people making good choices that will positively impact their future and the welfare of society in general, importance of full disclosure to parents, absence of forced or violent sex, etc. Because we share points of agreement, I have provided some solutions interspersed below.

I have many reasons why I oppose HB459. Here are several.

1. Medical accuracy discriminates against sexual orientation and alternative sexual practices. And yet this bill states that information will be BOTH medically accurate and that people will not be discriminated against. . . "sexual orientation." Page Line

- So which will give in to the other? Will the information provided to our keiki be truly medically accurate. Sexual anatomy and physiology do not

lie as to what the purpose of various body parts are (i.e. penis, vagina, anus, mouth/throat). Anatomy clearly tells us that a vagina is made to receive a penis, an anus is not, which is why H.I.V. rates for men having sex with men are a 3000% greater risk of H.I.V. infection. Negative consequences abound for using the anus to receive a penis, for others, see the following link. <http://www.webmd.com/sex/anal-sex-health-concerns>

- Will providing medically accurate information be considered discriminating against those who say they have a different sexual orientation? For example, those will those who choose to participate in oral sex (penis in mouth) be told about the increasing rates of the incurable human paphiloma virus (H.P.V.)? Will they be told that HPV is the most common STI currently affecting 79 million Americans and adding 14 million new cases every year? Will they be told that HPV causes genital warts and cancer? Center for Disease Control <http://www.cdc.gov/std/HPV/STDFact-HPV.htm#a7>. So, even though sexual anatomy does not lie, will people who teach our keiki lie by withholding true medically accurate information because they fear discriminating against people who choose alternative sexual practices?

2. A curriculum mandated by HB459 cannot possibly be a one-size-fits-all curriculum!

- Keiki are at different developmental ability cognitively, emotionally, relationally, and spiritually. A curriculum and/or teacher cannot possibly address the individual needs of every student in the classroom.
- Our keiki come from diverse family backgrounds. . .religiously, culturally, language, etc. How can a teacher or curriculum possibly be sensitive to each of our keiki's needs relating to ohana? To mandate a curriculum means that information will be thrust upon our keiki that will cause them much conflict and not create a safe place for learning. Every student needs to feel safe in our schools!

- An example of this has to do with my son's friend who said he almost fainted during sex ed class in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. This young man was obviously not ready to receive this information.

3. One solution to the above dilemma regarding the impossibility of a one-size-fits-all curriculum is to return sexual health education to the proper authority, namely the parents of the keiki.

- How can the State work together with each community (schools, religious groups, medical professionals, etc) to empower parents to teach their own keiki about sexual health in a way that respects the parents' authority, and their cultural and religious needs?

4. The Supreme Court has already stated clearly that parents are the primary authority and teacher of their own keiki. The State of Hawai'i wouldn't want to go against the Supreme Court would it? Please see the following Supreme Court cases and take note: U.S. Constitution, 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, Due Process. US Code and CFRs. ORS & OAR

- "*The child is not the mere creature of the state ...[the state of Oregon, by forcing parents to place their children in public school] unreasonably interfere[d] with the liberty of parents and guardians to direct the upbringing of their children under their control.*"  
-*Pierce v. Society of Sisters* (1925)
- "It is cardinal with us that the custody, care and nurture of the children reside *first in the parents*, whose primary functions and freedom include preparation for obligations *the state can neither supply nor hinder .*"  
-*Prince v. Massachusetts*(1944)
- "The primary role of the parents in the upbringing of their children is now established beyond debate as an enduring American tradition...[ *Parents' duty to prepare children for] additional obligations...include the inculcation of moral standards, religious beliefs, and elements of good citizenship.*"  
-*Wisconsin v Yoder* (1972)
- "Our decisions establish that the Constitution protects *the sanctity of the family* precisely because the institution of the family is deeply rooted in this

Nation's history and tradition. *It is through the family that we inculcate and pass down many of our most cherished values, moral and cultural* .  
-*Moore v. East Cleveland (1977)*

- “[O]ur constitution long ago rejected any notion that a child is a mere creature of the State and, on the contrary, asserted that *parents have the right coupled with the high duty* to recognize and prepare [their children] for additional obligations.”  
-*Troxel v. Granville (2000)*

5. In general, parents remain the best teachers for their keiki.

- Parents have known their children from inside the womb and have watched them grow. Parents know a child's personality, quirks, interests, communication ability, age readiness for potentially challenging subjects like sexuality and engaging in sex. Parents also know the values that they have taught their children.
- Some parents have challenges in parenting and communicating with their keiki about sexual matters. What can be done?
  - Solution: have the entire community work to create a program that will assist parents who are in need.
  - Solution: Assuming that there is full disclosure on what will be taught (and this has NOT been the case with current programs) give these parents an opportunity to “opt in” to a program for sexual health. Then the parent is still making an empowered choice.

6. In her written testimony to the Health committee, Superintendent Matayoshi stated that the D.O.E. does not currently need comprehensive sex education taught in our schools at this time.

- “Sexual health education is a component of our efforts to support student success. As there are existing policies and resources in place to address this area, the department respectfully suggests that this measure is not necessary at this time.”

7. Planned Parenthood is one of the primary encouragers of comprehensive sex education (i.e. HB459). This is a major CONFLICT OF INTEREST BC they make their \$\$ off abortions and contraceptives via Federal funding/Tax dollars

- Planned Parenthood is responsible for 300,000 abortions every year. Do you see a conflict of interest here? Pushing for more sex information which naturally spurs on increased sexuality resulting in more pregnancies. More pregnancies, more opportunity for abortions. Abortions cost an average of \$500. Doing the math,  $\$500 \times 300,000 \text{ abortions} = \$150,000,000$  million dollars. \$150 million dollars at the expense of children.

Thank you for your time and working together for the best welfare of our keiki!  
Aloha, Dave

**TESTIMONY to**

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Chair  
Rep. Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair

Rep. Henry J.C. Aquino	Rep. Matthew S. LoPresti
Rep. Isaac W. Choy	Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say
Rep. Linda Ichiyama	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Kaniela Ing	Rep. Lauren Kealohilani Matsumoto
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Andria P.L. Tupola
Rep. Sam Satoru Kong	

**HB 459 (HU EDN) RELATING TO HEALTH**

Wednesday, 02-25-15 2:00PM in HI State Capitol Conference Room 309.

Submitted in **OPPOSITION** by: Fern Mossman, HI 96734

Government schools should substantially limit the any lessons about human sexuality. Our society embraces such diverse opinions about sexuality, what is acceptable for one family could be totally inappropriate for another; therefore any education should be limited to biological facts, with lifestyle choice discussions relegated solely to individual family unit discretion. Those are the boundaries we should maintain. Sexual education is a personal and private matter that should remain reserved as a parental responsibility.

***Page 3 of the bill MANDATES sex education be offered for any "elementary, middle, intermediate, high, and alternative school" operated by the DOE.***

This laxity in the DOE with regard to age appropriateness is of concern. This bill invites harm to the Keiki. Young children in elementary school can actually suffer mental harm if they are taught sex education too early. Psychiatrist Melvin Anchell noted:

"Scholastic tests done on today's sexually educated 6- to 12-year-olds, indeed, show that these students have accomplished less scholastically than pre-sex-education students.

- "The sex teachings given to the 6- to 12-year-old students keep sexual impulses stirred up, disrupting sexual growth, as well as personal and cultural achievements."
- "A partial summary of adverse effects due to the sex educators' interferences during [this period] is that they: 1) Make the 6- to 12-year-old student less educable; 2) can block the development of

compassion; 3) weaken the mental barriers controlling base sexual instincts, thereby making the child vulnerable to perversions in later life.

***Page 3 of the bill also states: "At their own discretion, teachers may answer in good faith any question initiated by a student or students that is reasonably related to and consistent with the material of a course..."***

This is very broad. And it also means that parents will likely not have access to the oral statements made by the teachers, since those statements are not part of the written curriculum.

***Page 4 of the bill states that "Sexuality health education under subsection (a) shall not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity".***

The reality is that not all relationships are the same. There are HEALTH consequences to male-on-male sexual intercourse. According to the CDC, bisexual and homosexual males are about 2% of the US population; but an estimated 57% persons living with an HIV diagnosis in the United States are gay and bisexual men, or gay and bisexual men who also inject drugs.

This bill could mean that homosexual relationships and transgender lifestyles would need to be discussed—even to elementary students. Further, the bill's language could also be interpreted to simultaneously mandate a need to CENSOR the disclosure of the elevated health risks of homosexual behavior—in an effort to curb "discrimination". The bill could also be used CENSOR any dissent against the merits of transgender surgery, even though Johns Hopkins—which originally pioneered such surgeries—stopped doing them because they were actually harmful.

HB 459 leaves too much room for government intervention into the private lives of its citizens.

**Please vote no to HB 459**

**Respectfully submitted,**



**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jaci	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As a mother of a 4 year old son who will be entering elementary school soon, i must submit my testimony opposing this bill. While I believe there is a time and place for sex education, I do not feel that pre-pubescent children should be exposed to the content in the curriculum that the State Of Hawaii uses (Pono Choices) for sex education. In HB459 it states that "each public elementary, middle, intermediate, high, and alternative school operated by the department of education shall provide sexuality health education". Elementary school includes kindergarten and I do not think that it is "age appropriate" for children of 5 years old to learn about sex. Also the word "SEXUALITY" health education may refer something else beyond the basic education of the anatomy of sex. For the reasons that I do not believe sex education should start at the elementary level and that the wording of this bill is not clear, I urge you to vote against this bill. Thank you.

Aloha,

I'd like to write in opposition to HB 459 or any additional comprehensive sex education bills. The proposed bill calls for a curriculum of one size fits all for sex education. We know that in any subject matter, math, science, reading, a one size curriculum is extremely difficult to tailor to the needs of each individual student in any specific class. How much more difficult would it be to create a law which mandates teachers to teach our keiki a sensitive subject matter of sexuality, knowing that children mature at such different rates! Rates that vary in years at this point of their life, not just a few months. I would never imagine talking to my oldest child about some things that I can see my youngest child may be ready for at the same age. It would have greatly traumatized her, an extremely shy and uncertain individual. This bill is assuming that a comprehensive sex education curriculum accurately identifies when every single child would be ready for this information. I find that any legislature who supports this would be acting in an incredibly irresponsible way.

Here are two additional concerns I have:

- additional curriculum of this content already exists if teachers feel the need that their class is ready. Thus, there is no reason to mandate this in school.
- it does not equally represent the opposite point of view on sexuality – if the law mandates teachers spend time teaching our children about sexual freedom, the law should also mandate classrooms spend equal amounts of time talking about abstinence until marriage and working to stay with one partner in a sexual relationship throughout a life time. It also does not spend equal time on the health and psychological risks associated with premature sexual activity.
- other states that passed similar laws but the curriculum does not reflect what is in the law.

Once again, I write in opposition to HB 459. I would urge our legislatures to please leave this instruction for the parents to determine for their own children.

Mahalo,  
Keilani Briones  
Laie, HI 96762

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keith Kenyon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I missed the original testimony announcement. Appreciate the parental "opt-in" feature of this bill, but I strongly oppose the entire measure. CSE only pays lip service to abstinence; it encourages sexual activity. Recommend the state legislature focus its efforts on raising academic levels of our keiki--across the board-- instead of pushing the LGBT agenda. Mahalos for your consideration of my comments.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Martha Tia	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: TO: State of Hawaii Representatives 2/24/15 I OPPOSE HB 459! Hawaii Please PROTECT our Children! CSE grooms children for abuse by breaking down natural inhibitions and teaching them they can consent to sexual acts at a very young age. CSE is being pushed on students as young as 11 years old in Hawaii. Think of YOUR CHILDREN and GRANDCHILDREN when you vote on this bill! Martha Tia

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robin Fiu	Individual	Oppose	No

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
roseanne ulii	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill must not pass!! You are endangering our children's childhood and innocence. It goes against our family values to teach what this curriculum is trying to bring in to our keiki!!

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William S Lawson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose the teaching of sexual education to children younger than 6th grade.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Albert Somera	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this house bill. As a parent, to have the schools teach my children sex education in the elementary grade, I find this very inappropriate and upsetting. This age group should be taught instead high moral values and not progressive Sex Education.



**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Angela Breene	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support HB 459 for medically accurate honest sexual health education in schools. Unbiased, scientific information is the only way youth can make good decisions about their health. If parents object for religious reasons they have the right to remove their child from public schools.

TESTIMONY RE: HB 459  
OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED  
House Education Committee  
February 25, 2015

LATE TESTIMONY

## COMMENTS

Dear Rep. Takumi and members of the House Education Committee

My name is Barbara Afe.

I am respectfully asking you to read my testimony as, having worked in a detention facility for five years, I am well experienced with problems of juvenile sexual assault...juveniles just doing what they were taught in school was "okay if it feels good." Perhaps they heard it from teachers who may someday be held liable for teaching sexual practices to youth too young to legally engage in sexual activities.

Their parents need to be fully informed so they can make the decision whether of not to "opt-in" their children into these programs that prematurely sexualize their young children. After all, it's the families that will bear the brunt of any legal and social consequences.

I moved to Hawaii in 1985. I raised my three children here, left in 1996 and returned in 2009. During my years in the mainland, specifically Wichita, Kansas, I was the Chaplain of the Sedgwick County Juvenile Detention Facility for five years.

I saw more than a few youth charged and often found guilty of sexual assault status offenses. Occasionally some were tried as adults. There were both male and female, but mostly male. All had one thing in common: they did not know that they were committing a crime or status offense until after the fact.

I remember speaking with a prosecuting attorney about this. His words, "Yeah, we get these kids at the end but no one tells them at the beginning."

The comprehensive sex ed curricula in Hawaii's public schools do not address possible criminal charges. This is not only *not comprehensive*, it is costly and damaging to the youthful perpetrators and their families as well as their victims and their families.

Confidentiality keeps most of what I know with me alone, but I would like to share three stories. I know these males:

- Homecoming king, 17. Girl was 16, that's what she said. She was in fact 13 and her parents pressed charges.
- Male, 14, girlfriend and mother of his child, 16. He left the area, came back, found out she cheated on him. He hit her and was charged with aggravated

sexual assault. He didn't comply with his probation and has been in an adult facility in Kansas until 2016. It's been five years so far.

- Finally, Matthew Henderson, along with his older brother and father sexually assaulted his two younger sisters. A very high profile case. The two sisters were on Oprah Winfrey a few years ago. The show was titled 'Promise not to tell'. Matthew's older brother and father got 35 years in prison. Matthew got 7 years. He was a kid following his brother and father. Matt is a registered sex offender who has been in and out of jail since his release in 2013. He is now 22 years old, has a difficult time finding a place to live and work. I still keep in touch with Matt, he was in my facility as he awaited trial. While he knew what his family was doing wasn't right, he was 15 years old and didn't know he was committing a crime.

These are just a few I can personally attest to. There are many more in the facility where I worked. I shudder just to think of thousands more children across the country and here in Hawaii, trapped in similar and even worse situations.

Because none of the curricula disclose the legal ramifications, it will be up to you as a state legislator, to protect the children of Hawaii (both victims and perpetrators); teachers, parents, the school system and even the state, by at least making sure children are made aware of the serious legal consequences for sexual misbehavior as minors.

**PLEASE AMEND HB 459 to include full disclosure of legal consequences and protections from liability.**

Respectfully,

Barbara Afe  
Halawa, Oahu 96818

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara Kalama	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: "Pono" Choices is a not so PONO choice! I highly oppose this bill as a 35 year old mother of ( of which I was a teen parent at 16 and then later married my highschool sweetheart by the grace of God!), aunty and a preschool educator! If you want to reduce the teen pregnancy invest in parent INVOLVEMENT! Go to great lengths to help parents confidently engage their teen. Invest in promoting healthy marriages which will in turn create healthy families and ultimately a healthy PONO society! Parents are and always should be the FIRST educators to THEIR own children. THIS BILL IS A WASTE OF \$ & TIME! Please I urge you to kill this bill!

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dorien McClellan	Individual	Support	No

To: Head of the Education Committee Chairman Takumi and all who support you in this bill

From: Dreana Aiu

Date: February 25, 2015

HEARING DATE: Wednesday, February 25, 2015

I am writing you IN OPPOSITION OF HB 459.

I am a resident of Kahuku and would like to express my concerns regarding the proposed Comprehensive Sexual Education. I have attended 2 different community meetings that educated parents on the CSE being done in other places where this similar type of bill has passed, the statistics on increased sexual behavior of children in areas where this is already being implemented and was greatly disgusted and alarmed! I am sure many parents would agree that they do not want their child to be a guinea pig with CSE. Let's look at what is happening to the children and their health in places where this is already implemented and we can see that there are more negatives than positives. By passing this you and others will be held responsible for the chain reaction of bad things that will happen to our children that will affect our society and all of us. Why are we rushing into educating our young children about sex? Please hear us and our concerns!

I think there are a lot of parents who have not written in opposition to this bill because they don't know what this bill does. People need to know and be educated. Let's explore other options and let parents be involved in their children's education.

We urge the committee to stop H.B. 459! Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Dreana Aiu

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Faaiuina Halemano	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose SB 459 because of the many victims this bill claims to protect. I understand the need to create an awareness, reduce teen pregnancy, and teach the kids about life and its intimacies because parents or churches or whoever does not do enough. Life begins the moment the sperm and the egg meet if it didnt you wouldnt need a pill to kill anything or a surgery to kill something that doesnt live or exist yet. Don't over look what child psychologists are saying about the long term effects this graphic content will have on young children. Nothing good ever comes from corrupting a child.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Fara-Mone Akhay	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please allow for parents to opt out of child's participation should they choose. Mahalo!



**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Harry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HB 459. I understand that I do not have the power to pass the bill but I fear the consequences that will follow if this bill passes. The bill is too broad and it hard is to come to a clear understanding. The future will shine light on reasons why this bill should not be passed. I feel that parents should have the right to know what their children are being taught anytime and in any subject. Future bills should be more specific and detailed especially the ones that have to do with our youth.

Feb. 24, 2015

Dear Representatives of the people of the State of Hawaii.

I oppose this bill.

1- As taxpayers and citizens of this government and nation we must have an opportunity to view such controversial curriculum that will be taught in our public schools funded by our tax dollars.

2- As duly elected representatives of the people, we expect that your accountability to us encompasses giving us timely access to study and review material that if used will be paid for by tax dollars. Our trust in you is not a blank check without discussion and checks and balances. Those simple standards have not been met.

3 -The wording of the bill is ambiguous and not specific enough regarding the content that is being prepared for presentation to our youth, impressionable and from very different families and values.

4- It is a parent's right to teach family values that include religious beliefs, just as much as it is a parent's right to teach other beliefs that are contrary to those beliefs, so but by promoting this bill you are choosing one over the other and making us the stepchild.

5 - Give us the silent majority the rights to have our voices not only heard but weighted as such. The scales of justice requires integrity, not weighted preferences.

We look forward to your support against HB 459 and appreciate your service.

Mahalo,

Ivanelle Kahalepuna

56-150 Leleuli Place

Kahuku, HI 96731

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jamie Akinaka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Don't take away this sacred teaching experience from parents or guardians. Even more so, think of those young ones who may not be ready to learn of such things and whose innocence is destroyed by this type of education. If we allow this to pass then we are making sex a norm for preadolescent kids who know nothing of love, commitment, and loyalty which are responsible prerequisites to the act of sex.

HB459 Who decides what is age appropriate for sex-education?

1. Is it Planned Parenthood who makes money on abortions?
2. Is it the Muslim population of Hawaii who according to Islam believe in Sharia Law? Under Sharia Law homosexuals are put to death.
3. Is it the Christian Church that teaches abstinence and that homosexuality is wrong?

What is age appropriate sex-ed? Why opt in? All students will share material with their friends. You are pushing homosexuality on students and this is all age inappropriate. People are getting aids from their Craigs list one night stands.

Did a doctor decide what rules are medically accurate? Did a UH student decide? Was it Planned Parenthood? Why is there such a focus on exposing our keki K-12 to homosexuality then teach them how to have anal sex and use condoms?

According to Section 2 (a) 1 - 5 (pg. 2-3), Medically Accurate Sexuality Health Education ...The program content includes the most important and enduring ideas, issues, and concepts related to achieving good health.

Good health is not achieved when the child is exposed to sex sites via Common Core Curriculum and a student password to the Schoology links.

Please education begins when you leave our Keki alone and let parents raise them according to their values. Were you exposed to homosexuality in kindergarten and taught how to put on condoms?

Please let our children grow up with the same innocent minds that you had the opportunity to enjoy. Do away with this forced Sex-ed program then no opt in or opt out will be necessary.

Thank you

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Helene	Individual	Comments Only	No

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kimi Ide-Foster	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am submitting this testimony in support of this Bill. This is an appropriately tailored measure to address an alarming lack of information regarding sexual health and safety in Hawaii's youth. Understanding the consequences of their actions can only lead to Hawaii's youth making better informed decisions, thereby reducing the burden that issues such as teen pregnancy and/or STDs in individuals without medical coverage places on society as a whole.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Luisa Niutupuivaha	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please choose wisely and look carefully at this bill. The children are in grave danger with this bill.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lyle B McMillan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose HB459 in having the suggested Sex Education curriculum taught in the Elementary School grades. It is inappropriate and takes away the family based values of healthy relationships and sexuality. Please listen to the grave concerns of this constituent and do not allow this bill to proceed further.

February 24, 2015

To: Representative Della Au Bellati, Chair  
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Health

From: Max Fowler, Concerned Parent

Re: Testimony in Opposition to HB 459, Relating to Health

*I am in strong opposition to HB459.*

Mahalo, Representative Bellati, for not including the "opt-out" policy change into the current bill, but there are other concerns parents and teachers should have about this bill.

1. HB 459 cannot ensure that our younger keiki will not be exposed to Comprehensive Sex Education. Other states begin as early as Kindergarten.

2. Comprehensive Sex Ed is not an agreed upon healthy and effective method of teaching children about sex. It sounds good on the surface (mostly because of the term "comprehensive." Most would agree that term would suggest that we are attempting to cover all our bases and our children would be safer. But the term is misleading.

For example, abstinence has been devalued in many instances where C.S.E. has been adopted - and sexual activity is assumed, encouraged and sexual acts end up being *taught*. Yes, the acts of intercourse (anal and vaginal), as well as masturbation and oral sex are being taught to students. (Just see "Pono" Choices experimental curriculum developed by Planned Parenthood and U.H. Manoa Center for Disability Studies.)

3. Comprehensive Sex Ed is "values neutral." It does not want to instill any moral boundaries about sex (even regarding age or dangerous practices that have been statistically proven.) Sex is not "good" or "bad" it is just an act that people do. Common sense and experience tells us that there are serious consequences of "free sex" without any moral guidelines.

Let's teach our abstinence first and help our Hawaii's students learn about character, respect, ethics – which will give them a great moral framework to make good decisions as they learn about the basics of sex education. But let's not teach our children that sex is fine even if you are a minor and "By the way, if you are going to do it, here's how..."

4. Why go against the wisdom of those who are in charge of our schools, who work closely with teachers, parents and students? I agree with D.O.E. Superintendent,



Kathryn Matayoshi, who recently submitted *against* HB459 for a number of good reasons.

Finally, I want to thank you for the work you have done to set up measures to protect our children. I believe our legislators want to protect the children of Hawaii. Yes, we want to do everything we can to help parents, children and families in this day and age, but Comprehensive Sex Ed is not the route we should take. There are too many controversial teaching methods, curriculum and agendas by outside groups that want to reform the way our culture looks at sexuality and sex. Instead, let's look at creative ways our state and community organizations can help put more tools into back into the hands of parents and families, where the true responsibility needs to be.

I am respectfully in very strong opposition to HB 459. Please consider all sides of this issue and the unintended consequences of this bill due to the nature of Comprehensive Sex Education before it moves past this committee.

Respectfully,

Max Fowler

maxfowler77@gmail.com

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel James	Individual	Support	No

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sonia Blackiston	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is vital for Hawaii's youth to be informed about sexual health information so they can make healthy and responsible decisions for themselves, their families and their community. Please support this measure and also support an opt-out policy for parental consent.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sylvia Flores	Individual	Support	No

Comments: House Bill 459 seeks to promote the health and safety of our youth by ensuring that all public school students receive comprehensive sexual health education. Our failure to do so has resulted in poor health outcomes for Hawaii youth. Currently, Hawaii's teens rank lowest in the nation for condom use and for use of any type of birth control to prevent pregnancy during intercourse. The consequences are severe — Hawaii's teen pregnancy rate is 9th highest in the country and costs Hawaii taxpayers around \$32 million per year. HB 459 has the potential to build a generation of women and men comfortable in their own skin; able to make well-informed, responsible decisions; form healthy relationships; and take care of their bodies.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Talupelele	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Our children are our future. Ensure that they are given the best, the safest, the healthiest information. We are here because legislative representatives did not listen to the majority who did not support gay marriage. Not that we did not respect them - it was that the bill was selfish in nature - and continues to be selfish as they want to groom children for heinous acts. Please, once they put this in, they will rapidly bring the keiki of the ainas' minds to the dirt. VOTE NO!!!!!!

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Vicki L. Davis	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I want to state that I am against this measure, and believe that elementary is too young to teach a child about sex education. I also feel it is not the right of the public school system in Hawaii to teach my Christian grandchildren about homosexual and transgender sexual orientation. Parents should be providing that education and the age appropriate time in a individual child's life. By allowing the measure to go forward, you are overstepping on the rights of parents to teach their young children at a time when they deem is right. This is against my rights. Thank you for listening.

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lyle Burkhart	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am strongly opposed to this bill

**LATE**

I am exceedingly OPPOSED to this bill HB459 and its companion bill SB395. I am a parent of 7 children. One of which was adopted into our family. My wife and I have been foster parents and are concerned that comprehensive sex education will cause irreparable harm to children in foster care as well as the children in host families. This sets up a situation where curiosity and promiscuity will lead to younger sex offenses in homes where children are not related. This will have a negative impact on the number of parents willing to take in foster children. Please use common sense and sound judgment when voting on this legislation. There is nothing sound about it. It will lead to the destruction of the moral fabric our society is built upon. Look to history and you will see the fall of empires were the result of breaking down of the family and the very laws and rules of civility related to sex. As a citizen/resident of the State of Hawaii, I am opposed to Comprehensive Sex Education being taught in our Public Schools. This is something that should be left to an adult to decide when he or she wants CSE. I enrolled in college and took biology class and was taught all I needed to know about how to have sex. I was mature and able to handle the information and to act appropriately on that information. Children in Public schools are not yet adults and are forced to learn this curriculum which will most certainly offend their sensibilities and beliefs. Sex education should be left to the Parents and the individual.

## **Top Reasons to Reject Comprehensive Sex Education**

1. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION takes away parents' rights to say what their children learn about sexuality.
2. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION grooms children for abuse by breaking down natural inhibitions and teaching them they can consent to sexual acts at a very young age.
3. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION is "sex positive" and teaches children have a right to pleasurable sex.
4. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION is morally bankrupt. It is based on what a student feels he or she is "ready" for in the sexual realm, after instruction on how to have sex.
5. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION curricula are highly guarded. Parents are not allowed to view the full curriculum and instructional materials in privacy.



6. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION only pays lip service to abstinence; it encourages sexual activity.

7. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION normalizes dangerous and perverse sex acts like sadomasochism.

8. Planned Parenthood—the nation’s largest abortion chain—develops, promotes and profits from COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION.

9. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION is being pushed on students as young as 11 years old in Hawaii.

10. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION is totally unproven. There are no scientifically sound study that validate any claims made by promoters of CSE. Children are being used as guinea pigs.

11. COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION hinges on the belief that children are sexual from birth, an idea promulgated by serial child molester, Alfred Kinsey. Dr. Alfred Kinsey was a pervert who asserted that children are sexual from birth. He was a sexual psychopath who abused and experimented on infants as young as 2 months old. What is so disturbing is that nearly ALL of today’s liberal “comprehensive sex education” curricula are derived from the criminally fraudulent research of this homosexual pervert.

According to Dr. Judith Reisman, these so-called sex ed programs are doing to children, constructively, what pedophiles do to “groom” them for sex.

Kevin Salts

Hauula Resident, Foster Parent

**LATE**

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
aysha	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill! There is no need for 6 year old children to learn about different sexual functions at such a young age! They are jus barely starting to read and write!!! How are they suppose to comprehend something that is not supposed to be for children!??? It makes no sense at all. It's almost as if you government people are trying to tell these innocent beings that it's okay to have sex any which way with whoever you want at what ever age you want!! That is beyond mind blowing to introduce something such as gay inter course to children!! Your screwing them over before they even have their own chance to use their agency!! This is insane!!! I have two daughters and there is no way they will be learning this crap at age 6!!! Children are the future! They are what is going to carry us over into the next generation and if you want the next generation to be even more screwed up then you people who believe this bill is what it "right" for these innocent beings.... Then let me tell you at the last days you will all be accountable for guiding these young innocent children down a path of ugliness that they didn't even have a chance to agree or disagree with! They are children not adults!! I know for a fact I do not want my children learning and thinking it's okay to have sex with the same sex and the different ways you can do it!! Think twice in fact think triple times because you are making a big mistake in thinking children this young should learn this! I do NOT approve of this whatsoever!!! Mark my words you will be accountable!

**LATE**

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Calhoun	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HB459. I believe that sex education should be the responsibility of the parent -- NOT the responsibility of the school system. I acted as a substitute teacher in the Hawaii public schools, and was required to present sex education curriculum to 5th and 6th graders. The response I observed from the students was embarrassment, reluctance to enter discussion in the subject, inability to answer questions regarding the subject. It is not appropriate for sex education to be presented in a classroom setting until, at the earliest, late high school age/class.

**LATE**

**LATE**

**HB459**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gisele Hammond	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We parents must be allow to opt out.

LATE TESTIMONY

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

On HB 459 I BERNARD MENDONCA AGAINST THIS BILL

THIS BILL DOES NOT DEFINE elementary what grade are we talking about

Teacher in good faith to answer any question student initiates this may go any place a student wants this to go

Under discriminate sex sexual orientation or gender identity does it identify homosexual sex as risky behavior

This bill in this form is to vague

To The House of Representatives

Feb 10, 2015

Re: HB 459 – Relating to Health Women’s Legislative Caucus Package;  
Comprehensive Sex Education

LATE TESTIMONY

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

Rep. Mark J. Hashem    Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro    Rep. Jo Jordan

Rep. Beth Fukumoto Chang    Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi

Rep. Andria P.L. Tupola    Rep. Dee Morikawa

Greetings Mr. & Ms. Representatives,

My name is Warren Cho, a businessman, a husband and father of a 26 year old daughter and a 14 year old son. My family lives in Makiki, a beautiful place filled with houses, condominiums, apartments, dozens of schools, shops and small businesses everywhere. As you all know, it’s the city-life I have chosen, with great demands necessary to be around lots of people and car traffic to say the least. The City of Honolulu, is where I have decide to live and nowhere else. And it is simply because, everything is a short drive or walk to my destination and in close proximity as far as my daily lifestyles goes. In that, the schools are equipped and staffed with good, honest, sincere, and respectable teachers. Mainly public schools since both my children is and was in public education. And my hats down to the public school teachers (especially Queen, Stevenson & McKinley) to put in some perspective. And, to steer you to what I have to inject in this forum on Comprehensive Sex Education, I have decided to write my OPPOSE LETTER to do my part as a seriously concerned citizen and parent.

In respect to the elected representatives and the necessary diligence attached to this, in my opinion, a critical agenda and forum should be addressed in such a way that THE PROCESS do not repeat and or duplicate THE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE process. If the elected representatives is willing to listen, adhere, and consider the consequences of the HB 459 bill. Letting THE PEOPLE decide is my first and foremost VOICE I will start on my stance on OPPOSING HB-459. Secondly, my opposition on HB-459 is ten-folds, but will minimize in this letter instead to one more.

Here is a scenario for you to see the comparison. A common situation happening across America and in Hawaii.

Let us all take a look at this scenario very carefully. It is about a minor who gets drunk at a bar, and decides to drive his own car under the influence. He thinks he can drive, because he drank just a few beers. The bartender knowingly or unknowingly caters to this minor at the bar with alcohol drinks. In the meantime, the news comes later the same evening this minor had gotten into a car accident and killed a family in the other car. Later in the investigation, the police have located the bar where the minor had his alcohol drinks. Then by law, the business

was penalized to some degree, either financially, or the bar operation had to close for business or both penalties had applied.

The other scenario, is when the teacher/school teaches our Keiki's at elementary & middle grade school to learn about sex curriculum, and I will add to say instead, evil sex curriculum. And, if the boy or girl at the innocent age before puberty, is taught that this is HOW TO fondle any gender, how to masturbate, how and what is penetration, what is anal sex, what is pornography, etc., And as this innocent age the keiki comes to puberty, and acts out what he/she was taught from school, then a minor boy gets a 12 year old innocent girl pregnant, or the boy molests a girl to a scary point where she is traumatized and victimized that she eventually commits suicide, or boys molesting and raping other boy in the anal for the fun of it, or to bully the other boy or girl with evil sex acts learned in school and pornography or boys molesting and raping girls in the anal with a foreign object. As you can see, any parent can go on and on with this critical & cynical matter.

So, if the two scenario's were put side to side for review, and the first with the drunk minor killing a family, and the bar and bartender are held responsible for their part in attributing to the probable cause of deaths due to a minor drinking alcohol. Then, the penalties which should be severe and is severe in some states, is to be applied, right? Now, for the minor in school learning the EVIL SEX EDUCATION, causes physical trauma, emotional trauma, to oneself and or to others, the school AND the teacher MUST BE LIABLE financially and or evicted to lose his/her teaching license. Will this be applied and be fair consequences to whomever where partaking in the root of the cause?

To me, both scenarios vary little in any, as far as, initiation-to-process-to-outcome is concerned, where two entities exist that partake in the results of negligence of law and order, corrupted responsibilities to both minor/under legal age and the adult/teacher/establishment. As in the end, innocent lives will be and have been lost in multiple ways due to obvious outcomes of neglected mindest of teaching minors of ages in elementary and middles schools HOW TO SEX, WHEN TO SEX, WHAT TO SEX, WHO TO SEX, WHERE TO SEX, is to be forbidden at all costs. How do I know this HB-459 is harmful and evil to the minor? Well, we were all once a child in the pre-puberty age, weren't you? Have any of you representatives or know a friend or family who've been raped, molested, traumatized, bullied at, fondle against your will in your pre-puberty age? How do you or that someone deal with such tragedy and traumatizing personal event in the adult-life? How does one overcome this devastating scar in the persons will to live a normal adult life? Let alone, to be a productive individual in society? The caution and to yield to, is YOU, should you the elected Representative elects/votes to pass this horrendous HB-459 bill. YOU MUST take partial responsibility along with the school and teacher(s) in question. Why? Because it all start from the ROOT of things to come. Which is YOU, the elected representative, the school curriculum, and especially the teacher. If the bartender and bar gets penalized for serving alcohol to a minor who just killed a family in car accident. What grace and pardon do YOU, THE SCHOOL , THE TEACHERS be excused for? For a teacher teaching a child the basics of sex porn style or family

style, to brainwash the innocent mind with such satan-driven spirit, to mold them into molesting/tation, rape/ing, traumatize/ing, victimize/ing one minor to another minor. Eventually, to a gross outcome of suicide or death to a minor who just passed puberty? You, the school and teacher(s) shall be responsible just the same of the outcome of the child and family in question.

You see, a bad root cannot produce a good fruit but a good root can and will produce a good fruit. And I assure you, and many adults with compassion and love for our keiki's of Hawaii will speak against this horrendous HB-459. Because, the root of HB-459 will not produce any fruit in life for our Keiki's. But, it will destroy them, emotionally and physically to a point where they will live in personal Fear, Doubt, Insecurity, Hatred towards people and society, and probably be unsuccessful in marriage and or relationships in later adult life. If they even get that far!

Your decision last year on the SAME-SEX MARRIAGE passed, but know that your decision has put them all involved in the grave. Yes, the adults made their own choice, and each one will be accountable in the Day of Judgment from God. Don't make the same grave-error for those innocent children, for they do not know for what they do, and for those who vote for the HB-459, will be accountable in a grave way from God too. That is not a promise but an absolute judgment! Vote NO with a heart of compassion against HB-459, and keep your conscience out it for that is where Satan plays and tempts you to do acts of evil. Make the right choice, for your life in eternity to be in the Lake of Fire or in Heaven!

God Bless You,  
Warren Cho