



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

**Date:** 03/18/2015

**Time:** 01:15 PM

**Location:** 229

**Committee:** Senate Health Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 0459, HD2 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 HD2)

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) would like to provide comment on HB 459 HD2 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.

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. Further, the annual requirement to report *"on the participation rates and outcomes of the Department's policy to allow parents to opt-in to participate in sexuality health education programs in the previous school year"* will add a reporting requirement for schools and increase their workload. (Section 2 (g), pg. 4, lines 9-15)

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 abstinence from sexual intercourse and provide skill development to continue abstinence;*
- 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>

Further, should this Committee decide to move this measure forward, the Department asks that the following language be amended, Section 2 (b) (pg. 3, line 11) to read: "...elementary, middle, intermediate, and high schools, ~~and alternative school...~~"

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



## Hawaii Women's Coalition

LATE

### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Josh Green, Chair  
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015  
TIME: 1:15pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 229

### **STRONG SUPPORT FOR HB 459 Sex Education**

Aloha Chair Kidani, Chair Green and members,

I am Ann Freed, Co-Chair of the Hawaii Women's Coalition, and we stand with Planned Parenthood and our Coalition members in supporting sex education for our precious youth.

According to Planned Parenthood of Hawaii, the State's failure "promote the health and safety of our youth by ensuring that all public school students receive the most effective 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 have high rates of sexually transmitted diseases. Hawaii'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 — Hawaii's teen pregnancy rate is 9th highest in the country and costs Hawaii taxpayers around \$32 million per year.**"

The Coalition has, for over a decade, supported consistent and medically accurate sex education policy in ALL of our schools. This bill clarifies, defines and broadens policy, and provides consistency while protecting parents rights to opt out.

Please pass this bill.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify,

Ann S. Freed Co-Chair, Hawai'i Women's Coalition  
Contact: [annsfreed@gmail.com](mailto:annsfreed@gmail.com)

LATE



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46-063 Emepele 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 2, RELATING TO HEALTH

**Senate Committee on Education**  
**Hon. Michelle N. Kidani, Chair**  
**Hon. Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair**

**Senate Committee on Health**  
**Hon. Josh Green, Chair**  
**Hon. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 1:15 PM**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

Honorable Chair Kidani, Chair Green, 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 2, relating to health.

This bill codifies into law medically-accurate sexual education guidelines, including the provision of information about healthy and nonviolent relationships. Access to this information directly impacts our youth's susceptibility to sex trafficking, since traffickers engage in a variety of "grooming" practices to coerce underage victims into commercial sexual exploitation.

Education is key to preventing sex trafficking, yet no standardized lessons on trafficking are currently included in departmental health curricula. As you're undoubtedly aware, sex trafficking is a problem on our shores. Approximately 110,000 advertisements for Hawai'i-based prostitution are posted online each year, many of which feature school age children. According to a recent IMUAlliance study, Hawai'i hosts roughly 150 high-risk sex trafficking establishments.

It must also be noted the average age of entrance into commercial sexual exploitation, both locally and nationally, is 13-years-old, the age of an average eighth-grader. Sadly, Moanalua and Campbell High Schools were recently home to a sex

trafficking ring involving approximately a dozen teenage girls, culminating in the prosecution of three men 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

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education  
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 1:15 p.m.  
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 309  
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in Support of H.B. 459, HD1

LATE



healthy  
mothers  
healthy  
babies

COALITION  
OF HAWAII

Dear 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

**GAY LESBIAN  
BISEXUAL AND  
TRANSGENDER  
CAUCUS**



**DEMOCRATIC  
PARTY OF  
HAWAII**

March 18, 2015

**LATE**

Senate's Committees on Education and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 – 1:15 p.m.

RE: STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 459 HD 2 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Aloha Chairpersons Kidani and Green, Vice Chairs Wakai and Harimoto and fellow committee members,

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT to House Bill 459 HD 2 on behalf of the GLBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. HB 459 HD 2 specifies additional elements in Hawaii's existing sexuality health education law, including additional criteria regarding implementation of sexuality health education instruction. The bill also requires the Department of Education to provide certain types of information to the public and parents.

Hawaii has one of the highest rates of teen pregnancy in the country, that is just one the reasons that this bill is desperately needed for Hawaii's keiki. Research has shown that age appropriate comprehensive sex education is effective at assisting young people to make healthy decisions about sex and to adopt healthy sexual behaviors.

We are not alone as the American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, American Medical Association, American Public Health Association, Institute of Medicine, and Society for Adolescent Medicine, among others, support age appropriate comprehensive sex education, including education about both abstinence and also contraception and condoms.

This bill is also a matter of social responsibility we need to ensure that our keiki are prepared for life and that is includes comprehensive sex education please pass House Bill 459 HD 2 it is the right thing to do.

We look forward to you passing this bill and bring another plank of our Party's into reality.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.  
Chair



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**Date:** Thursday, March 19, 2015 6:10:32 AM

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**HB1251**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/GVO on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: I have two children attending WHEA. This school has taught my children so much. They have grown and learned a great deal thru the different leaning. I feel that WHEA will have them ready to take on anything and become very successful adults. I feel that: My child deserves facilities support. My taxes should support my child's school facilities. This will insure that younger children (like my 5year old) will have a great place to go someday. My children love this school and thrives here. Thank you, Amber and Greg Alcoran

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**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 4:03:04 PM

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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments:

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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION /HEALTH  
MARCH 18 115PM

LATE

HB459HD2

CHAIR KIDANI AND CHAIR GREEN,

I BERNARD MENDONCA OPOSE HB 459 HD2 FOR THE CHILDREN OF HAWAII

THIS BILL says a need to develop positive values - WHO S values are we referring to ?

WE HAVE A PROBLEM WITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOW FAR DOES THIS GO?

Who determines AGE APPROPRIATE?

If this PROGRAM DOES NOT HAVE FAMILY VALUES THIS PROGRAM WILL FAIL !

ITEM 2 REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION  
ON THE CURRICULA TO THE PUBLIC.

I APPEAL TO ALL OF YOU TO CONSIDER WHAT IS BEFORE ALL OF US

SINCERELY,  
BERNARD MENDONCA

*Bernard Mendonca*  
*Cell # 208-6399*

LATE

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing regarding my complete shock and complete disapproval of the HB459 sex ed bill. I pulled one of my children out of public school last year in large part because of my discontent with the “pono choices” program (which I feel has absolutely nothing “pono” about it) that was introduced into the school system, and I feel that my representatives in Hawaii have let us down by not concurring with the values of the people of Hawaii.

I feel that the content in HB459 is sexually explicit and inappropriate, and believe that it is actually a form of abuse to introduce children to material they are not mature enough for. I believe strongly in the encouragement of abstinence as the only form of totally “safe sex” and do NOT want my children, or any others for that matter, introduced to sexual practices that I do not agree with, and that haven’t even entered their minds. Many teachers that I have spoken to do not agree with or feel comfortable teaching the sample material shown with HB459, and MOST parents I have talked to abhor both the content and ages targeted with it.

I have another young child entering kindergarten next year and I am already feeling the pressure of what will happen if I send him to public school where I feel the lack of support and reinforcement of wholesome family values that our family, and many families in Hawaii hold. Even Hawaii State Superintendent Kathryn Matayoshi strongly disapproves the bill and has voiced her concerns. It is a burden not to be able to send children to public school because I feel that there is such a lack of support for family values, and IT IS A BURDEN NOT TO BE ABLE TO TRUST THE CHOICES OF OUR LEADERS TO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE THEY HAVE BEEN CHOSEN TO REPRESENT! Now I know that not all of you agree with this bill and that some of you are actually listening to the public, and I thank you **wholeheartedly** for that! Mind you, we are keeping track of the votes of legislators.

I am EXHAUSTED having to fight so hard for the maintenance and sustaining of wholesome family values, which are NOT included in this bill! And I am watching very closely to see which senators and representatives actually will support the attitudes and beliefs of the people they were intended to represent. Many of the leaders who went against the voices of the people of Hawaii with the SB1 bill were removed from office, and we are watching to see if there are others who have their own agenda who need to, likewise, be removed.

Please listen to the voice of the people. We are strongly against this bill! Many parents are even unaware of what is happening. Please help kill this bill!!!

Sincerely,

Celeste Tefan

Native Hawaiian, Lifetime Resident of Hawaii, and Registered Voter

LATE

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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM  
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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cleda A. Kalama	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha, I am a parent of two elementary age children. I am also an educator. This speech may be too late, but I would like it to be on the record. Please, please, please, do not burden the Department of Education, DOE, by mandating them to share a curriculum, derived from the ideals and practices of Plan Parenthood with explicit terms and graphic images. Our public schools have far too many standards, milestones, and objectives to accomplish related to a basic academic education. Our publically funded schools, paid for by taxpayers in your districts, should not be mandated to add sexual education to their responsibilities. Teachers, professional educators, are not sex educators. They are not trained to be sex educators. Legislators of Hawaii, and you have been deceived if you think that our children need sex education and a curriculum that exploits the innocent, and profits charlatans. Would you, in all your good sense, require the entire Department of Education, Kindergarten through twelfth grade (K-12) to spend their time to track the number of families that "opt in" to sex education as an outcome. Would you truly feel that this is a good use of public school, and educational funds? From my experience, outcomes should be measured in controlled research settings. A new curriculum, one that is provided without training, and implemented "at will", cannot be a proven method to meet educational objectives. Are we trying to reduce teen pregnancy, or increase the number of same sex relationships? Why is there a vote on this measure?.. "to increase critical thinking skills." Teaching "critical thinking skills" as noted in this measure is laughable. Critically thinking skills, high level thinking skills should not, and should never need to be introduced and centered around human sexuality!!! What are you thinking!!!! Critical thinking skills should be used when critiquing literature, or comparing and contrasting points of view!!! Not to determine how or when you want to have sex with yourself or another person..... Please KILL THIS BILL NOW!!! If you do not, please, tell me with a clear conscious, that you want to and need to, with clear conviction, overburden the public educational system, all its teachers, and all its administrators with this ludicrous mandate; and that you want to force us, all the tax payers of the Great State of Hawaii, to spend money on a curriculum, that may well be medically accurate, but as you may discover, is quite unacceptable from the perspective of parents and families. Please allow me to gently phrase that if you pass this measure, you My Dear Legislator, you will provide evidence that you, while wishing well, clearly are at work against the family and the

future success of our children. Preparing our keiki, our most valuable resource, our children for adulthood, is not as much about sexuality, as it is with developing skills to build healthy, plutonic and lovingly reciprocal relationships in a safe and intelligent environment. ---Tell me how you can teach children about masturbation, or anal and vaginal intercourse and not expect them to transfer this information into their life experience or daily living. Teachers cannot be expected to field questions related to human sexuality and intimacy in the public education setting. They simply are not prepared, nor should they be. Would it not be better to teach children higher level thinking skills in 1) inter-personal communications, 2) the importance of developing and maintaining strong family bonds, 3) learning how to establish and maintain healthy boundaries, 4) identifying ways you can realistically take care of others and yourself, 5) learning how to set achievable goals for yourself, and 6) measuring personal achievements that increase your changes of personal, professional and financial success. If you want our keiki to learn about sex, help them learn about animal reproduction and compare it to human reproduction, and then teach that how we, unlike animals have to work really hard to nurture and care for our young, because it does not seem to come naturally to us. We need to be taught to nurture, and we need to learn to manage our responsibilities. Do our children really need to learn about the birds and the bees from Plan Parenthood who have insidiously embed their ideals in the nation, and now terrorize the common people of Hawaii; only to profit from the creation and distribution of an overtly shocking curriculum, will they seek to bolster the abortion industry in Hawaii, who continue to offer on-demand, legal abortions through the third trimester. Shocking and inhumane, isn't it!!! Gentle listener, to anyone who may be actively listening to my words, if you were to ask me, I think a more appropriate curriculum that would be worth spending tax payer dollars on, would include a revised and updated version of "home economics" for the 21st Century, in addition to requiring students in 8th grade to take parenting classes with a 30 hours of on the job training, with professional caregivers of infants and toddlers. There are many things to be learned about life and preparing for adulthood when you can learn to take care and nurture of young children appropriately in a professional setting. Sex education, might seem to be a good idea. And it might seem that we need it in our schools. It might even seem that the earlier, the better; but if you really think about it, this version is a dark shadow, a lark, and a rouse, an insidious distraction that will set the public's educational system, and our keiki up for failure. Please, in all sincerity, KILL THIS BILL NOW!

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**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:48:46 PM

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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Please vote against this bill. It will hurt our keiki more than helping them. thank you.

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**LATE**

To our respected Representatives and Senators,

My name is Courtney Oshiro, I am 23 years old, and I live in Waikāne with my husband and 17 month old daughter. I am emailing all of you in regards to HB 459 and I am asking that you all vote NO on this bill.

As a mother I am very concerned about this bill. My husband and I have started talking about what school we would like to send our daughter to, and the type of education we would like her to have. I want my daughter to be equipped early in life that she may have a successful career and a well rounded education, that will qualify her for whatever she would like to do in life. However, I feel this bill would affect her education and well being in a negative way.

Rather than focusing on how to read, write the alphabet and count, she would be learning about comprehensive sex education. I really want to ask, why are we teaching 5 and 6 year olds about sex? They are physically, mentally and emotionally immature to have a sexual relationship. So why are we igniting their curiosity that would only fuel and encourage them to do something they are not ready for?

I believe in abstinence, I believe in traditional marriage, and I am against abortion. I believe that sex should be reserved for marriage. At the very least, sex should be reserved between two adults who are in a healthy committed relationship. I don't want to send my daughter to a school that is going to teach her that it's ok to have sex young, or outside of marriage as long as it's "safe" and you are comfortable with it. If something happens and she gets pregnant then she will probably be encouraged to get an abortion and fix her "mistake", as some of my friends were.

I want to teach my daughter to respect her body, to respect other people and to be responsible with ALL that is given to her. Not to have fun and take the easy way out.

This bill, allowing early comprehensive sex education, interferes with what I would like to teach my daughter.

So I respectfully request that you all vote no. I also respectfully would like to state that I have no interest in voting for someone who compromises the health, safety and wellbeing of my daughter. I don't hold any negative feelings towards any of you, I sincerely pray you are all blessed with good health, a long life, and that you may be prosperous in all you do as you strive for righteousness.

Sincerely and respectfully,  
Courtney Oshiro



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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Please vote NO to HB 459

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**HB1251**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/GVO on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Donna Therrien	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please fund charter schools. They make a difference!

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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
E. Ileina Funakoshi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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LATE

Aloha,

Thank you for your work to try to keep Hawaii a good place to live.

I am opposed to HB459 and Comprehensive Sex Education.

**Comprehensive Sex Ed (CSE) probably could accelerate STD about 20~32.6% more.**

Comparing the increase of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) from 2008 to 2011 between Hawaii and 2 States that have already adopted Comprehensive Sex Ed (CSE):

State	Comprehensive Sex Ed?	Increase in STD from 2008 to 2011
Hawaii	Not yet	5%
New Jersey	Yes	25.3%
Oregon	Yes	37.6%
		(For 15-20 year old age group)

There is **20.3 and 32.6% more increase** in Sexually Transmitted Diseases for these states already having Comprehensive Sex Ed vs Hawaii which does not have it now!!!

**=> Also, 92.8% of male STD is from Male-to-Male sex. (ages 13-19 years old)**

(Source: PEACE Hawaii presentation)

So though CSE is touted to reduce SDI, it actually would most probably increase it!!! Though possibly not aimed at it, it actually may increase risky and promiscuous sexual behavior in our young people by a titillating "smorgasbord" of sexual options, "show and tell" and "how to" even if paying some lip service to abstinence. The visual and emotional effect washes away the logical message and negatively influences behavior. More risky sexual activity translates to more STD and other bad effects.

=====
**PLEASE WORK TO OPPOSE AND VOTE DOWN HB459 AND COMPREHENSIVE SEX ED!!**
=====

**We are better off without it!**

**I am also opposed to the change in the bill to have the parents "opt out" vs "opt in".**

Thanks in advance for your response and consideration.

Aloha and God bless,
Ed Shaw
A concerned citizen

LATE

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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM  
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 11:47:06 PM

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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
emmie	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The content involved in this sex Ed program ADDS STRESS to the minds of the young children who are already dealing with a lot of stress. The images and information are not conducive to a productive and positive learning environment. It creates confusion in the minds of young children, thus taking away from their focus on regular education. Hawai'i schools are already failing our children. WHY make it worse?!! STOP THIS BILL!!

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This is my testimony AGAINST HB 459, HD2 - Comprehensive Sex Ed.

No one would recommend children to be taught University level classes; they are not mature academically, physically, mentally or emotionally for university. All of life's lessons are given step by step, age appropriate for the success of their development.

So why is this bill even being considered for children, who are neither physically, mentally or emotionally ready for it? So there is a problem with teen pregnancy, how is this Bill HB459 going to rectify it?

The operative word here is Comprehensive. Sex in it's original form and purpose is simple and uncomplicated yet someone feels a need to make sex comprehensive? I can see more sexual abuse, incest and other agonizing problems inflicted, which comprehensively will be taught to be normal. Obviously when you get to the bottom of it, it is all about money, and we are expected to pay for it with taxes, paid to defile the minds and sexual development our children.

What's more who gave them the right to use "Pono Choices". Culturally we take care of our own and don't adopt, but when all resources are exhausted it becomes an acceptable step. Abortion is not acceptable; culturally we are about **Perpetuating the Race** not killing it!

I would not want to be held personally responsible for the comprehensive sexual problems of our future, our children. Would you? To vote yes is definitely not PONO!

**VOTE NO to HB 459, HD2.**

Sincerely,  
Iraani Bridges  
Hauula, HI 96717

**LATE**

Aloha,

You must not pass HB459. It's irresponsible and harmful. You are stepping on the rights that we as parents have. This bill will have major consequences for our children, families and this state. Please protect our children.

Stop HB 459 now!!!

Sincerely,

Joseph Fano  
47-573 Puapoo Pl  
Kaneohe, HI 96744  
(808) 227-4044

LATE

**From:**  
**To:** [EDU Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT HB458 and HB459  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:21:49 PM

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Aloha Committees on Education and Health,

I am writing in strong support of two important bills relating to health: HB458 and HB459. Hawaii's youth, both boys and girls, deserve accurate information about vaccine-preventable diseases such as the human papillomavirus (HPV), as well as accurate and comprehensive sex education. Please help to ensure that our youth and families have as many opportunities to learn and make informed, healthy choices.

Please pass both HB458 and HB459.

Respectfully,

Judy Kern

Honolulu, Hawaii 96825



**LATE**

Aloha,

I am writing in strong opposition to HB 459. This bill is not needed, not wanted, and harmful to our children and families. This kind of “comprehensive” sex education is inappropriate for our children at any age. Our kids should be taught nothing more than reproduction and the benefits of abstinence. The explicit sex education curriculum that is being proposed and is being taught in other states is pornography and is child abuse. Exposing our children to explicit sexual images is a disaster waiting to happen. How can this be appropriate? You don’t need to be a doctor or a sex education “expert” to know that this could harm a child. How can you think that exposing our children, teens, and young adults to these images won’t stimulate thoughts and encourage dangerous actions. You need to stop HB 459 now. I’m so angry that this is even an issue. Parents should be allowed to teach their children the values they know to be true. Stop this irresponsible behavior now. If parents knew or understood what was trying to be done here, I know there would be outrage!!

Stop HB 459 now!!!

Sincerely,

Kailani Fano  
47-573 Puapoo Pl  
Kaneohe, HI 96744  
(808)227-4044

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**Date:** Thursday, March 19, 2015 4:54:54 PM

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**HB1251**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/GVO on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristi Dagdagan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair, Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair Committee on Education,

Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Committee on Health, And Members of the Senate Committees on Education and Health

From: Leslie Jones, constituent

To: Joint Hearing of Senate Education and Health Committees

Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Hearing Time: 1:15 p.m.

**Testimony in Opposition to H.B. No. 459, Relating to Health**

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. In discussing any proposed legislation, it is important to look at the necessity of that legislation, the consequences of the proposed legislation, and its impacts on the groups and individuals primarily affected by the proposed legislation. In the interest of time, I will simply cover the first point.

**First, it is unclear why this legislation is necessary.** The same study relied upon by the Hawaii Youth Services Network, Planned Parenthood, and other groups that have testified I support of this measure states that **Hawaii is no longer 9<sup>th</sup> in the nation with regard to teen pregnancy.** That old statistic of 9<sup>th</sup> in the nation is from 2010, when the teen pregnancy rate was 65 pregnancies in Hawaii per 1000 teen girls. The **number of teen pregnancies in Hawaii as of 2013,** the most recent date for which data is available in that study, shows that there **were only 25 teen pregnancies in Hawaii per 1000 teen girls, a drop of more than 61 percent!**

This same study also shows that **in 2013 Hawaii is second lowest state in the nation in the rate of sexually active teens** (the only lower state being Alaska).

**Clearly, Hawaii is already doing something right when it comes to teen pregnancy and sexual activity.**

The groups that testified in support of this measure also admit that Hawaii already has a “strong sexual health education law” and that parents are and should be the “primary sex educators of their children.”

**In addition, the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE), which is the State department entrusted with educating Hawaii’s keiki in all areas, has testified that the Department already has what it needs to educate our keiki in this area.** Specifically, Superintendent Matayoshi of the Hawaii DOE testified that in the Hawaii Department of Education:

“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.”

**Why did Superintendent Matayoshi say this? Her testimony makes it clear that the Department already provides medically accurate sexuality health education, and already provides a list to the public of the materials that they use, including resources on the Department website.** Specifically, the Superintendent noted that:

“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.”

**Clearly, the Department is already taking a reasonable, broad-based, and appropriate approach to educating our keiki as whole persons, who are empowered to make good choices regarding their health and that of others in all areas, including their sexuality, without placing undue emphasis on any one area.**

In addition, Superintendent Matayoshi stated that “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....”

**In summary, for these reasons it seems clear that this legislation duplicates efforts that the Hawaii Department of Education already has underway, is unnecessary legislation, and should be deferred at this time.**

Alternatively, this measure should be amended to delete Section 2, paragraphs b, c, d, and e to allow the Hawaii Department of Education to continue its current efforts and to report to the 2016 Legislature on the results of its study of those efforts.

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

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LATE

**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lily Brunke	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha- I oppose this bill because there are no state standards. Children so young are not ready psychologically to handle sexually explicit material. It will imprint on their brains like pornography imprints on older children and adults. What effect with this have on our culture? It seems to me that this is a means to indoctrinate our children to the homosexual lifestyle. What about health risks like HIV & HPV? What will be the effects of this curriculum on the mental & neurological structure of our children? What exactly is the curriculum? Are we just to suppose that it will be like it is in other states? Do you know what the parents of this State want? Something this important should be taken extremely seriously and the welfare of our children should be our primary concern. Ted Bundy admitted in an interview that he did what he did because of pornography. It just got more and more extreme until it was the perverted ones. He also said that all of the men on death row were there because of pornography. Sexually explicit material will have the same effect on a child of five years old. I ask that you not pass this bill for the sake of our children, our families, our communities and our State.

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**HB1251**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/GVO on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lyn Worley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB 1251 HD1, as it is currently written. ALL public school children deserve support for the purpose of designing, planning, constructing, repairing, and maintaining public charter school facilities. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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Dear Legislators:

Bills are written in language that sounds positive and morally upright. It is easy to be persuaded by that language and concede to what it purports if you don't read carefully and critically.

I am just afraid that people have long been convinced that it is good for schools to provide sex education that they don't or won't question a bill like HB 459. However, I am using this opportunity to encourage our legislators to read deeper and ask these questions before making their decision to support or oppose.

From Section 1, paragraph 1:

1) What proof or evidence is there *“that sexuality health education promotes healthy attitudes on adolescent growth and development, body image, gender and sexuality, dating, relationships, and family”*?

2) And, if the above is true, why then is there the need to “bolster” the effectiveness of sexuality health education?

3) What is a *“comprehensive approach to sexuality health education”*?

4) What does *“greater flexibility in implementation”* mean? Why is there the need for *“greater flexibility”*? With *“greater flexibility”* you risk being able to blur the lines of having standards. Is that the goal – to be able to make all lifestyles and life choices acceptable?

5) In the last sentence of Section 1 paragraph 1, it states *“providing...greater flexibility in implementation,”* but Section 1 (1) states, *“...including additional criteria regarding implementation of sexuality health education...”* Which is it -- flexibility or adding criteria? Criteria seems to mean more regulation and requirement, not flexibility.

From Section 2:

6) Who determines what is *“age appropriate”*? How can you lump all kids who are chronologically 7 years old and say they are all at the same emotional, intellectual, behavioral maturity level to be able to hear and understand the content? You are taking a standard population and generalizing that ALL kids of that age fit.

7) In (5c), teachers may use *“their own discretion”* and *“answer in good faith”*? This allowance has the possibility of inviting subjectivity and personal beliefs. I think even teachers would find this statement questionable. It would a good argument for not having sex education in the schools.

8) What is Hawaii's existing sexuality health education law, and where can the public access it?

Finally, after all these years of sex education being offered in schools, the rates of teenage pregnancy are still on the rise and use of condoms are not. Then, why do we think more sex education is what is needed? And why do we look to schools to educate our young? Some say it is because kids come from homes where the family structure and parental control are lacking so they don't get the guidance. But, do we consider that it is because the school, a government entity, has taken that responsibility away from parents that parents don't need to step up and teach their own children? Parents have been made to rely and, in fact, trust schools to do their job.

Here is my radical proposal: Rather than "bolster" sex education in our schools, just do away with sex education in the schools and put the responsibility back on the parents where it belongs.

Parents are rightly the child's primary teacher. Schools and school teachers are to support parents. Let's keep the roles and responsibilities in proper order.

Sincerely,  
Lynette Araki



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**LATE**

**HB1251**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/GVO on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Guo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB1251**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/GVO on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Reyes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I love this school and my child deserves facilities support.

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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Against bill 459. I am a mother of 2 and believe sex education should not be taught in schools. It should remain the responsibility of the parents.

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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nate	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Stop HB459. Sexual education should be directed by the parents, not the state, especially in areas that go beyond reproduction. The bill would be promoting perspectives on sexual behavior that are contrary to the majority of the governed.

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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: I appreciate the fact that the HD2 version does not cancel DOE's opt-in policy. Yet I question the wisdom of a mandating the offer of sex education in elementary schools.

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**HB1251**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/GVO on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rose Keith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. My children have wonderful charter school teachers but they do not have a cafeteria or a gym. The teachers love what they do so much they dig into their own pockets more often than their "regular" public school counterparts to ensure their kids are offered a great classroom experience. Our family has chosen the charter school route for the smaller class size and intimate student/teacher relationship and we are aware of the tradeoffs.....but the kids still deserve basic facilities and personnel to keep up those facilities! Let's shake the nasty reputation that our state doesn't care about the education of our children and step up to the plate!! Thank you!

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**LATE**

**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Please vote no on this bill. The comprehensive sex education is not appropriate curriculum for our keiki. It will steal their innocence and destroy family values!

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**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/20/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Please vote NO on HB459. I strongly oppose this bill and feel it is not the DOE's responsibility to teach my children sex education. This goes against my rights as a parent to raise my children in the manner I approve of. The proposed curriculum of HB 459 is offensive and culturally insensitive to me as a Native Hawaiian.  
PLEASE VOTE NO TO HB459!

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**HB1251**

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU/GVO on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
susan cobb-adams	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this measure. My daughter goes to Kona Pacific Public Charter School. She is in the third grade and has been attending since first grade. We live in Ocean View and commute each day, for her to go to school. We work from home, so most days we come home after we drop her off, then make the return trip at the end of the day to pick her up. We pass THREE elementary schools along the way, but take the extra time and pay the extra expenses to get her to this charter school. It is well worth it, and my daughter LOVES her school! She does extremely well and misses going to school when she is sick. The Hawaii Public Charter Schools are wonderful and deserve as much support as possible. The education is better in my opinion than ordinary public schools and the environment is better. I have many nieces and nephews that are close to my daughter, and they would love to have her in their schools, but I would never allow it, as much as I love them. The influences and attention at the charter schools can't be found in regular public schools. Mahalo, Susan Cobb-Adams

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**LATE**

My name is Tawna Chun and I am a resident of Kaneohe HI. I am a licensed Special Education teacher, currently working part time as a substitute in the Windward District.

I oppose this bill as being irresponsible and ill considered. Why in the world would you want to pass an education bill which is opposed by the teachers who are going to be required to teach it. Even the US Dept of Health can't back this up as being an effective deterrent to teen pregnancy and STDs.

As a teacher, I have seen how damaged children can become by exposure to sexual content that they are not physically or emotionally equipped to deal with. Even if parents are able to opt their own children out of a program, they will not be able to protect them from the talk and actions of their peers.

This bill opens up a Pandora's box of issues, especially when you're including K-12.

Sex education should be about health—understanding changes that come with maturation, understanding reproduction, keeping safe, having control over one's own body, preventing pregnancy and preventing disease. It is not the place of the school system to teach sexuality.

Please put a stop to this insanity.

Thank you,

Tawna Chun 808-223-1453

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**LATE**

**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Against bill hb459.

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**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB459 on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 11:48:49 PM

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**LATE**

**HB459**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for EDU/HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Bill 459 is wrong. I do not want my kids to learn about sex in the schools. I will teach them at home. I am rooted in a conservative belief. It is my right to teach it to my kids. Why should I have to worry that my kids are being taught things that do not follow my beliefs.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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