



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

Date: 02/11/2015
Time: 08:35 AM
Location: 329
Committee: House Health

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0459 RELATING TO HEALTH.

Purpose of Bill: Specifies additional elements of Hawaii's existing sexuality health education law and its implementation. Requires the DOE to provide certain types of information to the public and to parents. Allows parents to opt out of the DOE's sexuality health education.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) would like to provide comment on HB 459 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 abstinence 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. Students need to obtain, interpret, and understand basic health information and services in ways which enhance health. The program content includes the most 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. (b) (pg. 3, lines 12-15): 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>

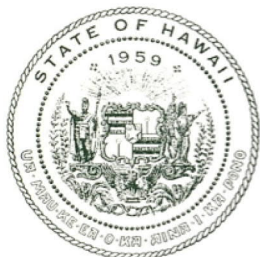
Section 2 (f) (pg. 4, lines 8-11): The Department has identified and made public a list of appropriate sexual health education curricula for middle/intermediate and high school students.

Section 2 (g) (pg. 4, lines 12-18): In June of 2014, the Department strengthened the role of parents in this decision by changing its policy from an *opt-out* to an *opt-in*. Beginning in the 2014-15 school year, all parents must sign an opt-in form permitting their children to participate in sexual health 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.

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

HAWAII
STATE
COMMISSION
ON THE
STATUS
OF
WOMEN



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LESLIE WILKINS

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February 11, 2015

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

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

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

The Commission is in strong support of HB 459, 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 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 is the appropriate response. This bill specifies the curriculum components, including age appropriate and medically accurate sexual health information. Additionally, HB 459 allows parents to "opt out", if they do not want their children to take part in the educational components at school.

Our DOE has dedicated and highly informed teachers, but this measure would further assist them by giving guidance on how and when to teach these important life lessons. The Commission respectfully urges this Committee to pass HB 459. Thank you for your time.



February 11, 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, 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 STI 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 education needs to occur in public schools. 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. It is also good public health provision to support a bill including parental opt-out mechanisms, rather than parental opt-in ones. In conclusion, passage of HB 459 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.



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

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February 10, 2015

Chair Rep. Au Belatti and Health Committee Members

RE: HB 459 Relating to Health
Hearing on Feb. 11

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization devoted to promoting progressive public policies.

We support HB 459 as we support accurate sex education. A good sex education program would reduce the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies. States with abstinence-only sex education tend to have higher rates of teen pregnancy. The "Pono Choices" program is so much better and needs the support this bill would provide.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel
President

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, February 11, 2015
TIME: 8:35 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 329

STRONG SUPPORT FOR HB 459 Sex Education

Aloha Chair Au Belatti 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: annsreed@gmail.com Phone: 808-623-5676

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 9, 2015

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
And members of the Committee on Health

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 459 RELATING TO HEALTH

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 459 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 9th 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



Planned Parenthood of Hawaii

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Health
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 8:35 a.m.
Place: Queen Liliuokalani Building, Rm. 329
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in Support of H.B. 459

Dear Chair Belatti and Members of the Committee on Health,

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii writes in support of H.B. 459 as it seeks to promote the health and safety of our youth by ensuring that all public school students receive the most effective sexual health education. Our failure 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 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 (tied with South Carolina's as the 10th) highest in the country and costs Hawaii taxpayers around \$32 million per year.

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 our children's future — their 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.

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

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*Providing the people of Hawaii with exceptional sexual and reproductive health care and education,
through fearless advocacy and compassionate, affordable services.*

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 a role 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 safe, healthy and responsible decisions.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Health
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 8:35 a.m.
Place: Queen Liliuokalani Building, Rm. 329

Re: Testimony in Support of H.B. 459

Dear Chair Belatti and Members of the Committee on Health,

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies (HMHB) writes in support of H.B. 459 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

Testimony Submission

Re: HB 459 - A Bill for An Act – Relating to Health

Name: Phil Lees, President

Organization: PEACE Hawaii

Position: Opposed to HB459

Summary of Reasons

HB459 refers to Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE), Many of the statements within the bill, taken at face value we support. However the implementation of these statements often leads to concern for parents.

- 1) Implementation of CSE programs in other jurisdictions (eg. Oregon), have been met with great concern.
- 2) Although HB459 indicates parents should be informed, it does not recognize the role parents play in sexuality education. Sexuality Education is a values-laden subject. In the State of Hawaii there are many different cultures and faiths that have different values related to human sexuality. Although HB459 speaks to communicating with parents, CSE caters to the rights of the child, almost always disregarding the family.
- 3) A one-size fits all program is not flexible enough to take into consideration that many of the students are not ready for the information.
- 4) The statistics presented below cast doubt on the effectiveness of CSE to improve student health
- 5) Although CSE claims to provide information so that children are able to make informed decisions, critical information is intentionally left out, because it is deemed to be intolerant toward people who engage in sexual activity.
- 6) CSE is based upon a value of humanism and although claims to be based upon science, it more often is based upon the values of the proponents, and is not flexible enough to address the various needs and values in the community.

Comprehensive Sex Education

Definition:

A rights-based approach to Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) seeks to equip young people with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values they need to determine and enjoy their

sexuality – physically and emotionally, individually and in relationships.

It views 'sexuality' holistically and within the context of emotional and social development. It recognizes that information alone is not enough. Young people need to be given the opportunity to acquire essential life skills and develop positive attitudes and values. (1)

Background:

Historically, sex education in schools focused on the way the human body changes as we mature, and also on the science of conception. When it came to sexual activity, the belief was to discourage teens from being sexually active until they were ready for a committed relationship. Not only that, but the risks involved in increased sexual activity among teens, such as unwanted pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections and HIV, are proven. The Centre for Disease Control and Prevention in the U.S. reported in 2013 that “nearly half of the 19 million new STDs each year are among young people aged 15–24 years.” (2) Nearly half. That's not a trend anyone would want to see continue.

Today, the approach is called Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE). CSE experts and teachers insist that teens, like adults, are capable of making personal decisions as long as they know about sexuality and have access to contraceptives. The way to fight sexually transmitted infections and teen pregnancies, they say, is to provide teens with information and contraceptives and teach them skills like how to say “no” and how to put on a condom. This belief is evident in the descriptions of CSE given by organizations like the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) (3) and the Sex Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS).

Words like “explore”, “experiment” and “discover” are being used along with descriptions of sexual behavior. In other words, adult learning strategies are being applied to children in the belief that they'll make similar decisions. What's wrong with this belief? Below are some concerns with CSE.

Concerns with Comprehensive Sex Education

- 1) **Implementation of CSE programs in other jurisdictions (eg. Oregon), have been met with great concern.** The state of Oregon has had CSE education for many years. The recent “Adolescent Sexuality Conference” to which 17 school boards sent bus loads of children ages 11 – 17, created much concern over the graphic nature of the teaching. Please see attached article
- 2) **Although HB459 indicates parents should be informed, it does not recognize the role parents play in sexuality education. Sexuality Education is a values-laden subject. In the State of Hawaii there are many different cultures and faiths that have different values related to human sexuality. Although HB459 speaks to communicating with parents, CSE caters to the rights of the child, almost always disregarding the family.**

Parents are their child's primary sex educator. They know the sensitivities of their children and are perfectly placed to parent their children through critical stages of development.

Parents and the home environment they create have significant influence on teen sexual decision making. An ongoing survey by the American-based National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy has consistently found that teens rate parents as the most influential source in their sexual decision making. Parental monitoring moderates negative peer influence and is associated with reduced sexual risk values and parental values protect against the initiation of sexual activity among youth who are exposed to higher associated with increased risk behaviour. Low levels of parental monitoring have been associated with increased risk of early sexual initiation when their parents reported lower quality relationship at ages 12 and 13 years old.

The evidence shows that parents create a social climate in their home that influences beliefs and behaviours that help teens transition towards autonomous adulthood. Sexuality education cannot merely acknowledge parents, but must engage them in this role.

We should be taking better advantage of the role of parents, and where necessary training parents in the importance of their role.

2. Many students are not ready for the information

In his report *Making Sex Education Work*, Mitchell (2014) reports that “[u]niversal curriculum has limited flexibility to suit the sensitivity of each child.”⁴

Mitchell observes that “[t]he American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry advises parents of young children that, ‘[p]arents should respond to the needs and curiosity level of their individual child, offering no more or less information than their child is asking for and is able to understand.’”⁵

He goes on to note that “...readiness can differ from child to child even in the same family [and that] [u]niversal curriculum has limited flexibility to suit the sensitivity of each child.”⁶

3. CSE is not as effective as reported at improving student health

The rationale for comprehensive sex education is ‘provide students with all of the information so they can decide what is best for themselves.’ Proponents tell us this kind of programming leads to fewer teen pregnancies and reduced STI rates.

If comprehensive sex education was effective then states that have had a long history of CSE instruction (e.g., New Jersey and Oregon) should have STI rates were stable in recent years, ideally declining. New Jersey and Oregon have had CSE programs for 20 years. The chart below provides information taken from the Centre for Disease Control Sexually Transmitted

Infection rates for Chlamydia, Syphilis, and Gonorrhea. Between 2007 and 2010 Oregon had 37% increase in STI rates, while New Jersey had a 25% increase.

STI Rates, 15 – 24 Year Age Group (7)

State	2007 STI Rate / 100 000 For 15 – 24 age group	2011 STI Rate / 100 000 For 15 – 24 age group	% Change
Oregon	1474.9 / 100K	2029 / 100K	+ 37.6 %
New Jersey	1638.8 / 100K	2041.4 / 100K	+ 25.3%

By comparison, the state of Hawaii, where sex education is not even a required course, the STI rates for Hawaii grew barely 5%.

STI Rates, 15 – 24 Year Age Group – Hawaii (8)

State	2007 STI Rate / 100 000 For 15 – 24 age group	2011 STI Rate / 100 000 For 15 – 24 age group	% Change
Hawaii	2142.1	2255.5	5%

<http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats/by-age/15-24-all-STDs/>

STI rate Increase in Hawaii, where comprehensive sex education is not mandatory, has been limited to 5%, whereas states with a long history of Comprehensive Sex Education have had 5 to 7 times that increase.

Pregnancy Rates

In Canada, the province of New Brunswick implemented CSE since the mid 2004. Between 2006 and 2010 teen pregnancy rose 40% . 9

3. Current CSE curriculum leaves out critical facts

In 2009, Dr. Miriam Grossman published the book “You’re Teaching My Child What?...A physician exposes the lies of sex education and how they harm your child.”, which offered a

critique of sexual health education from a medical perspective.

In an interview with Peter Mitchell, Grossman highlights some of the key concerns about comprehensive sex education.

Neurology - the brain isn't ready

In her interview, Dr. Grossman says that recent scientific study shows that the brain area responsible for making rational decisions is not fully developed in teens. Instead, teens base decisions on emotions, not information. She states that “[teen brain] circuits aren’t complete; the wiring is unfinished...” and that scientists “...know now that teens’ poor decisions are likely due not to lack of information, but to lack of judgement. And there is only one thing that will bring that: time.” (10).

Gynecology - the body isn't ready

Dr. Grossman also explains how information about gynecology isn't being shared with teens, and why it's important for girls to delay having sex:

“The cervix of teen girls is covered by a layer that is only one cell thick. That area is easily penetrated by the human papillomavirus (HPV), which can cause cervical cancer... [w]ith time, the surface is covered by cells that are 30 to 40 layers thick, and is therefore much more difficult to infect...putting all questions of morality aside, if [girls] are sexually active at a young age, they are at risk for infections that could impact their physical and emotional well- being over the course of their lives. (11).

Risks of sexual behaviors aren't being explained

Within most CSE material, anal, oral and vaginal sexual activity are treated equally and the risks associated with each behavior are often overlooked. Grossman states, for example, that “[s]tudents are not required to be told that oral sex is associated with HPV and cancers of the throat...[that is] important, life-saving, information [which] is withheld from kids. Students are also not told that the most efficient way to transmit a sexually transmitted infection (STI) is through anal sex. And even though studies have shown that the anal sex greatly increases the risk of becoming HIV positive, the information is withheld because it's deemed offensive to the homosexual male. (12)

High Failure Rate of Condoms During Anal Sex

In their report entitled HIV Transmission among Men Who Have Sex with Men due to Condom Failure, Remis et. al. (2014) state that “[d]espite preventive efforts, HIV incidence remains high among men who have sex with men (MSM) in industrialized countries. Condoms are an important element in prevention but, given the high frequency of condom use and their imperfect effectiveness, a substantial number and proportion of HIV transmissions occur despite condoms.” (13)

4. Parental authority is overruled by 'expert' opinion

When speaking to the media, and in their material for parents, sex educators state that sex education should start at home and that parents should be the primary sex educators of

children. But in material directed at kids the message is altogether different. Here's what SIECUS says in an online booklet for kids called Talk About Sex". It opens with eight pages on sexual rights: 'Every human being has basic rights. Still, adults may say and do things that make young people feel like they don't have rights. It's important for you to know your rights so you can stand up for yourself when necessary.' Then a bit later: 'You have the right to decide how to express your sexuality at every point in your life. You can choose if and how to express your sexuality.' (14)

Ninety per cent of parents want their kids to delay sexual behavior, and they expect sex educators to enforce that message. Organizations like SIECUS promise to do so, but they don't. "Talk About Sex" is a good example of what really goes on. The goal is for the young person to realize that, sure, adults may have their opinions, but kids of all ages have the right to their own ideas about sexuality, as well as the right to behave in any way they like. Nowhere in this pamphlet are kids told: we urge you to delay sexual behavior because that's the healthiest choice.

5. Much of the information isn't scientific

Most of the articles supporting CSE claim abstinence-based sex education is not effective in preventing teen pregnancy. However, the teen pregnancy statistics to actually back this up are difficult to find. (15)

Organizations like Planned Parenthood and SIECUS "...teach children that they are sexual from cradle to grave...and that children have the right to express their sexuality in whatever manner they choose. This message promotes sexual freedom, not sexual health. This is ideology, not science."¹⁶

Conclusion

Sex education is a value-laden subject. The values about sex education run from sex is only to be engaged in for procreation and any sexual activity outside of this purpose is a sin, to those who actually believe that it is the right of the individual to express their sexuality and should be instructed on how to do so.

Is any position wrong? In an inclusive, respectful society the sex ed curriculum should be flexible to address the various values.

Perhaps the best way to deal with this would be to provide the information for parents to train their children. Then the parents would be able to answer the questions of the child and provide only as much information as the child is seeking – as mentioned this is consistent with the American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. 17

A one size fits all curriculum (Comprehensive Sex Education) does not address the various values and cultures, and, as has been demonstrated, could be very hazardous to the health of our children.

Recommendations

- 1) "A Definition of Comprehensive Sexuality Education"
<http://www.rfsu.se/en/Engelska/International-Programmes/Newsletter---Focus-international/Spring-2012/A-definition-of-Comprehensive-Sexuality-Education/>
- 2) "Adolescent and School Health," last modified June 12, 2014,
<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/sexualbehaviors/>
- 3) "Comprehensive Sexuality Education." <http://www.unfpa.org/comprehensive-sexuality-education>
- 4) Peter Jon Mitchell. Making Sex Education Work. Institute of Marriage and Family Canada. November 2014. <http://www.imfcanada.org/sites/default/files/making%20sex%20education%20work.pdf>
- 5) Peter Jon Mitchell. Making Sex Education Work. Institute of Marriage and Family Canada. November 2014. <http://www.imfcanada.org/sites/default/files/making%20sex%20education%20work.pdf>
- 6) Peter Jon Mitchell. Making Sex Education Work. Institute of Marriage and Family Canada. November 2014. <http://www.imfcanada.org/sites/default/files/making%20sex%20education%20work.pdf>
- 7) Reportable STDs in Young People 15-24 Years of Age, by State,
<http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats/by-age/15-24-all-STDs/>
- 8) Reportable STDs in Young People 15-24 Years of Age, by State,
<http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats/by-age/15-24-all-STDs/>
- 9) Alexander McKay. "Trends in Canadian national and provincial/territorial teen pregnancy rates: 2001 – 2010." The Canadian Journal of Human Sexuality. Vol. 21, No. 3&4 . <http://www.sieccan.org/pdf/TeenPregnancy.pdf> p. 165.
- 10) Peter Jon Mitchell. "An interview with Miriam Grossman, MD, author of the recently-released You're teaching my child what? A physician exposes the lies of sex education and how they harm your child." Institute of Marriage and Family Canada. September 2009.
http://www.imfcanada.org/sites/default/files/eReview_September_9_2009.pdf
- 11) Peter Jon Mitchell. "An interview with Miriam Grossman, MD, author of the recently-released You're teaching my child what? A physician exposes the lies of sex education and how they harm your child." Institute of Marriage and Family Canada. September 2009. http://www.imfcanada.org/sites/default/files/eReview_September_9_2009.pdf
- 12) Peter Jon Mitchell. "An interview with Miriam Grossman, MD, author of the recently-released You're teaching my child what? A physician exposes the lies of sex education and how they harm your child." Institute of Marriage and Family Canada. September 2009. http://www.imfcanada.org/sites/default/files/eReview_September_9_2009.pdf
- 13) HIV Transmission among Men Who Have Sex with Men due to Condom Failure, Remis et. al. (2014),
<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0107540>
- 14) Talk About Sex
<http://www.seriouslysexuality.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.ViewPage&pageId=1072>

NOTE – Copyright SIECUS

- 15) Teen Pregnancy Statistics, <http://www.teenpregnancystatistics.org/content/teen-pregnancy-statistics.html>
- 16) Peter Jon Mitchell. "An interview with Miriam Grossman, MD, author of the recently-released *You're teaching my child what? A physician exposes the lies of sex education and how they harm your child.*" Institute of Marriage and Family Canada. September 2009. http://www.imfcanada.org/sites/default/files/eReview_September_9_2009.pdf
- 17) American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (2005). Talking to your kids about sex. Facts for Families, No. 62

Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) ...

is a rights based approach that seeks to equip young people with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values they need to determine and enjoy their sexuality – physically and emotionally, individually and in relationships.

It views 'sexuality' holistically and within the context of emotional and social development. It recognizes that information alone is not enough. Young people need to be given **the opportunity to acquire essential life skills and develop positive attitudes and values.**

<http://oregonoptimist.com/community/sherif-ready-to-shut-down-inappropriate-oregon-adolescent-sexuality-conference/>

Sheriff ready to shut down inappropriate Oregon Adolescent Sexuality Conference

By H. Whisman|11/22/2014|COMMUNITY, NEWS|0 Comments



SEASIDE, Ore.—

For the past twenty years, students ages 11 to 18 attended the Oregon Adolescent Sexuality Conference in Seaside, Oregon. Recently, KOIN 6 News revealed that contrary to “preventing teen pregnancy, preventing STDs and developing healthy relationships,” as conference director Brad Victor [promised](#), the conference promotes dangerous sexual activities for minors.

One workshop entitled “From Texting to Teledildonics: Is Technology Changing Sex?” led by keynote speaker Cory Silverberg teaches students about phone sex, pornography, and teledildonics.

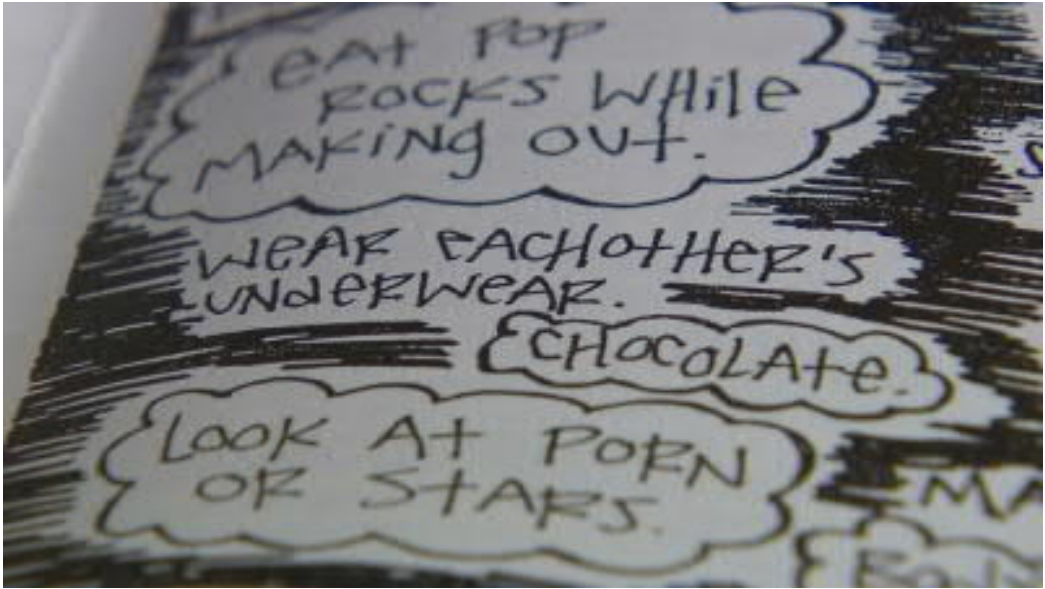


“Teledildonics basically refers to the control of sex toys over the Internet; the remote use of sex toys,” [said](#) Silverberg in an audiotape recorded by an attendee.

Silverberg taught students how to use an adult website called Virtual Fem. One student explained that Silverberg gave detailed instructions on how to make an avatar and press command keys to perform virtual sex acts.

Numerous handouts were administered to students encouraging cyber and phone sex and suggesting ways students can engage in sexual activity without “going all the way.”

Pamphlets encouraged behavior such as bathing together, shaving each other, wearing each other’s underwear, roleplaying, buying an extra-large pair of pajama bottoms to sleep in together, lap dances, and strip teases.

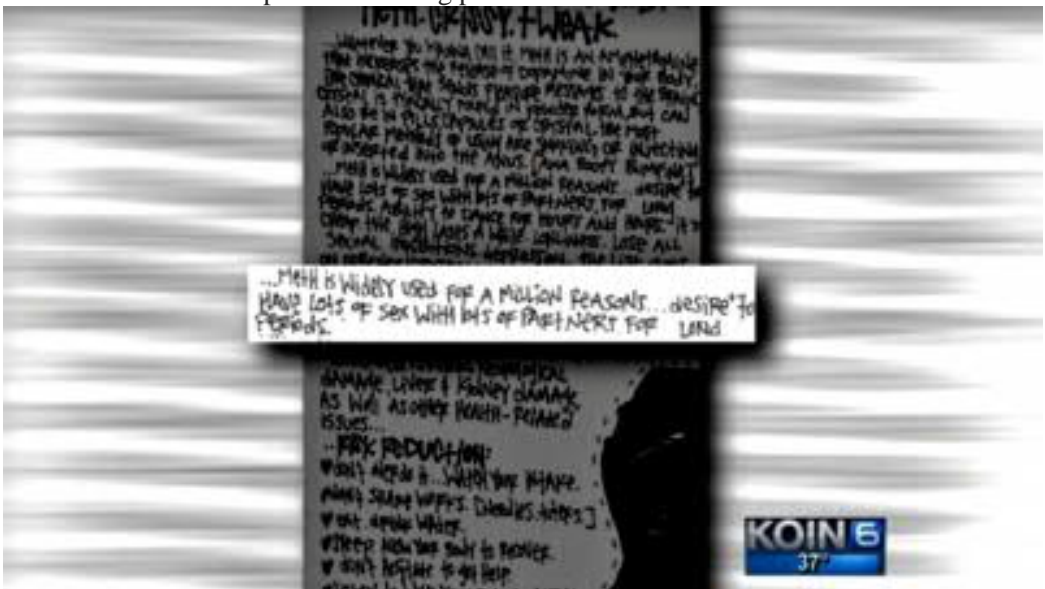


Victor declined to comment when confronted with the graphic content of the conferences. When KOIN 6 investigator asked whether he thought the material in the pamphlets would be effective to prevent teen sex, Victor [said](#), “I’m not going to address that question. That question is inappropriate.”

Lisa Maloney, St. Helens School District board member, said she was concerned by what she witnessed.

“All kinds of speakers about Internet porn, using Internet sex toys, using meth as is shown in this book for when you’re engaging in sex. It encourages using meth because it helps your sexual drive and what not in here,” [said](#) Maloney. “It says it in this booklet that was handed out and given out to all young people.”

The section of the handout to which Maloney referred [states](#), “Meth is widely used for a million reasons to have lots of sex with lots of partners for long periods.”



Although all students need permission slips to attend the conference, most parents admitted to being unaware of the nature of the material.

“If it was an adult sex conference, we wouldn’t even be having this conversation, but this is directed to adolescents. We want them to be safe,” [said](#) mother Lori Porter.

The program is funded through state tax money. Victor receives support from two state agencies as well as the federal government. The conference’s website lists Oregon Health Authority and the Oregon Department of Education as some of the conference’s supporters.

Seven of the sixteen Oregon school districts who attended in the past now refuse to participate in the April’s upcoming conference.

Clatsop County Sheriff Tom Bergin is now working to shut down the program. So far he has contacted the Clatsop County district attorney to investigate criminal activity at the conference.

“When we saw your story, it validated a lot of concerns that we had,” [said](#) Bergin to a KOIN 6 reporter.

“We want to first get it shut down and stopped. If it’s not stopped, I can guarantee you we will be scrutinizing this and looking into it in depth.”

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:53 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: lorincarmichael@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorin D Carmichael	Sure Foundation Puna	Oppose	No

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex it should be an "opt-in" program only.

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creagan3 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 3:44 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: kat.caphi@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kat Brady	Community Alliance on Prisons	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan and Members of the Health Committee, Medically accurate, age appropriate sex education is so very important. Many of our women serving time might have avoided their problems if they had accurate information upon which to base their decisions. Please support this common sense measure and help our youth realize safe, healthy, and happy lives. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

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Memo

To: STATE OF HAWAII LEGISLATURE
From: SJ MELENDREZ, PMO & VP Mililani Middle School, PTSO.
CC: DEPT OF EDUCATION
Date: February 11, 2015
Re: TESTIMONY, OPPOSITION TO HB-459

Dear Honorable Chairs of bill HB 459, **Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair**
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **opposition** to HB 459 concerning
Women's Legislative Caucus Package; Comprehensive Sex Education

I and my firm and speaking as a parent, are opposed to this legislation for the following:

1. This bill would allow sexuality education to children in elementary schools but the bill is geared for sexuality health of adolescents, and (2) Includes education on abstinence, contraception, and methods of disease prevention to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease, including human immunodeficiency virus[.];

Why would we allow the DOE to instruct elementary school children on this materials.
Therefore this education is inappropriate.

2. This bill assumption is skewed:

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.

If the DOE wants to promote positive values and positive self-esteem, it should be teaching in schools family values, respect, morals and abstinence. This sex education does none of the above

3. Other states providing the curriculum:

Within the past few years, several states...

The resultants of other states providing similar curriculum has been counter productive to the students causing confusion in the students, having students pre-occupied with sex, rather than with academic education and causes in-fighting (if you like me, you will do...as we learned in comp sex educ class, if it is taught in class it must be ok...oh, this doesn't work, lets try this).

4. This curriculum may cause intimidation between students:

(3) Helps students develop relationships and communication skills to form healthy relationships that are based on mutual respect and affection and free from violence, coercion, and intimidation;

When children are exposed to this type of curriculum, they experiment and see how they can use it to their own self gratification by manipulating others to do what they want. This is destructive and is counterproductive and should not be introduced into our State's academics.

5. Opt out:

A student shall be excused from any part of the instruction provided pursuant to this section only upon the written request of the student's parent or legal guardian

I do not believe this legislation has merit to even allow it into our curriculum and the opt out option should not be used, the **opt-in option** should be exercised, if this legislation moves forward. Preference is that this curriculum should not move forward.

6 Perspective:

As a consultant and a leader in the community, I believe in giving back to the community, so I sit on the Board of Directors of certain non-profit organizations in the State.

One of which is Mililani Middle School of which I am honored to be the Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Parent Teacher Student Organization. For this write-up, there has not been time to present this write up to the board, so I present this as a concerned parent as a consultant to state government.

As VP of the PTSO I spend significant time at the school and with parents in the execution of my duties of the Board. Mililani Middle School is the largest middle school in Hawaii, approx 1740 students and I have a student at the school. Ms. Chung our Principal is an excellent Executive, a true leader which manages the affairs of the school with integrity. I have dialogued with our State Senator, Ms. Kidani and State Representative Ms. Fukumoto Chang and they are very supportive of our school and our community.

What would be more appropriate from the legislature and what the parents are asking for, is **increased academic proficiency curriculum** in the schools, not sex education. Many parents think the DOE is pre-occupied with sex, the students and the parents are not.

Sex education is not required in the public school system in Hawaii. I have seen in discussion with various groups that the consensus is that the DOE appears to be pre-occupied with Sex, which may be monetary motivated from within and without.. This pre-occupation with sex from the DOE has filtered into the legislature appears to be an **unhealthy pre-occupation** which is reminiscent of the Woodstock (free-love) days.

I recommend this legislature not be moved forward. I am presenting to the student body on 2/11 at MMS on fundraising and will not be able to present my testimony in person at the 0830 hearing. Please accept this opposition memo into state record. For additional info or to ask questions, please contact me @ 808.693.6301, or at DrSJMel@gmail.com, thank you.



THE 'OHANA PROJECT

P.O. BOX 23055 • HONOLULU, HAWAII • 96823

TESTIMONY FOR PUBLIC HEARING:
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

February 11, 2015
8:35 AM, ROOM 329

TESTIMONY FOR **HB 459** – SEXUALITY HEALTH EDUCATION – MAKING
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AMENDMENTS

Chair Rep. Belatti, Vice-Chair Rep. Creagan and Members of the Health Committee:

Aloha Kakou,

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

HB 459 seeks 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 can have 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: **"Under the current system, teachers, the DOE and State are exposed to serious legal repercussions by providing minors the "skills" and "support" to engage in sexual activity "if they feel they're ready?"**

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 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.

Respectfully,

Leon Siu
Director, The 'Ohana Project
Hawaii Parents Coalition

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 3:44 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: alemke@outlook.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aurora Lemke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: 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. I believe that every youth should have access to education about their sexual health. We need to have an Opt out policy for Sexual Health Education because there will be higher numbers of participants in those programs. So many students may not be able to participate (if we continue to have an opt in policy) because of parents who may be uninvolved in their children's lives, or maybe because of a forgotten signed paper. This is a horrible excuse to have youth not participate in what may be the most important education program about their own healthy lives and bodies. Thank you.

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 5:09 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM*

HB459

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 5:13 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: marcyfrommaui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marcy Koltun-Crilley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am an R.N. and mother on Maui and I strongly support this bill. Mahalo.

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 8:13 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: ShadowWalker1600@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM*

HB459

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 6:37 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: bkulbis@reagan.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose HB-459. This is an over reach of your authority. The Opt Out policy for controversial education is a direct assault on the family and our Keiki!! It is the responsibility of parents, not legislators, to make the decision about what their children should be taught and when it should be taught when it comes to controversial topics like "sex education." Especially when those topics have a direct impact on the health and well being of their children.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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	

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 11, 2015
TIME: 8:35 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 329
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

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

I oppose comprehensive sex education in the schools and the policy in place should remain "opt in."

Please oppose HB 459.

Dear Representatives,

Thank you for taking the time to consider my opinion on HB 459. I oppose this bill as written.

I do not understand why you are attempting to change the sexual education programs from “opt in” to “opt out”. It wasn’t very long ago that the legislature decided that it was in the best interest of Hawaii’s keiki and parents to opt in. What has changed?

The purpose of this bill, among other things, is to ensure that the curriculum is “age appropriate” and “to provide greater public access to the curricula”. If you are serious about trying to guarantee these ideas then it is imperative to keep the programs as “opt in”.

Parents are the best judges as to whether the class would be age appropriate for their child. If the curriculum is made easily accessible, which should not be a problem with today’s technology, and a parent is encouraged to look it over before signing a waiver to allow their child to participate (opt in), then the maximum goals would be met. More people would be accessing the information and making the best decisions in regards to their children’s education.

If the procedure is followed as the bill is currently written, with parents being required to submit a written request to excuse their child from the class, many children will be exposed to explicit sexual material that they are not ready for nor need to know, especially those using Pono Choices.

Please keep the sexual education curriculum in our schools as “opt in” programs.
Oppose HB 459.

Mahalo,
Lisa Poulos

TESTIMONY to House Committee on Health

H.B. 459 Relating to Health

Wednesday, February 11, 2015

8:35 AM -- State Capitol Conference Room 329

Submitted in **OPPOSITION** by: Mary Smart, Mililani, HI 96789

Chairs Belatti; Vice Chairs Creagan and Committee Members:

1. I Strongly **OPPOSE HB 459**. Parents have made their opinions very clear - the State is promoting some objectionable sex education programs and they want to protect their children from explicit, pornographic, age inappropriate messages that are currently being disseminated in schools. The only way to do that is to allow parents to review the program that is planned at the school their child will attend and give the parent the option to "OPT IN" to the program if the parent believes the program is in the best interest of their child.

2. As the legislature is well aware, parents have opposed curricula that the Board of Education find acceptable. It is the parent who should have the final decision on what type and when their child is exposed to sex education. [Not all children mature at the same rate](#). That is a known, yet our schools ignore this undeniable fact. For example, the PONO Choices curricula has been erroneous and not age appropriate. It was very difficult for an elected official (Representative McDermott) to obtain the contents of the curricula. Parents are in even a weaker position. Therefore, only after a parent has been given and reviewed the material and decide that the material is appropriate for their child, only then, if that parent gives his/her approval shall their child be allowed to attend such classes. The school must keep proof of that approval on file. Any schools that subjects a child to these classes without parental approval shall be found liable if the parent/guardian subsequently sues the school/board of education/state.

3. An OP-OUT provision is not satisfactory.

4. Do not pass this bill out of committee. It is harmful to our keiki and puts parents in a difficult position when trying to guide the upbringing of their children.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
To Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair and
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

To include representatives: Evans, Ichiyama, Lowen, Luke, Morikawa, Thielen and San Buenaventura;

I write this in strong opposition to "HB 459"

It appears that Pono Choices has raised its ugly head once more.

I do not believe public education can promote anything healthy when it comes to sex education ... I believe it still has not been proven to be medically accurate (regardless of what was stated in the bill, as more experts could be brought in to prove otherwise), it is not age appropriate since each child is a unique individual and matures at a different rate and it does not promote abstinence as vigorously as it does the acceptance and exploration of the alternatives.

These are areas that should be left to the parents/caregivers not a government sponsored school.

Before moving this bill anywhere, I along with many others would like to see a detail of the program to be taught.

In closing I once again support halting this programing immediately.

Respectfully submitted

Rita Kama-Kimura
HD-36
02/10/2015

creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 5:30 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: onehelpingone@live.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM
Attachments: HB 459 ...SEX ED.pages

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronette Byers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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TESTIMONY to House Committee on Health

H.B. 459 Relating to Health

Wednesday, February 11, 2015

8:35 AM - State Capitol Conference Room 329

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

Chair Belatti; Vice Chairs Creagan and Committee Members

I strongly OPPOSE HB 459. Keep the current sex education policy to "opt in" and say no to comprehensive sex education. The DOE found itself in hot water last year for implementing the controversial sex program called *Pono Choices*, which breached parental trust at practically every turn. Parents have made it abundantly clear that they do not want their children subjected to culturally offensive material that is marketed as "comprehensive, medically accurate and age appropriate" when in fact, it is nothing of the kind.

Just recently, there was controversy in Northern California as parents began to learn the details about sex education presentations for freshman in the Acalanes Union High School. The sex education curriculum there drew the ire of local parents and for good reason.

<http://www.breitbart.com/california/2014/11/10/planned-parenthood-under-fire-in-sex-ed-controversy-at-california-school/>

Two months ago, controversy erupted in Nevada where the school district fumbled its attempt to reform sex education so badly that a grassroots effort has now formed to protect parental rights.

<http://eagnews.org/las-vegas-mother-starts-parents-group-to-counter-controversial-sex-ed-classes/>

Anyone who has carefully looked into the modern phenomenon of today's sex education industry knows that these programs are not designed to warn kids away from harmful experiences at all.

<https://www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org/page/investigate-their-plan>

Their real aim is to break down traditional morality and sexual inhibitions in favor of actually encouraging sexual experience. The off stated goals are to reduce teen pregnancy and STD's.

The truth is, teen pregnancy rates have reached historic lows in all fifty states.

<https://gutmacher.org/media/nr/2014/05/05/index.html>

And while the rates of STD's have skyrocketed, more sex education under the guise of "comprehensive sex education" is not the answer. It is the problem.

<http://www.heritage.org/research/lecture/youre-teaching-my-child-what-the-truth-about-sex-education>

The version of the facts of life that today's sex educators teach teens promotes sexual exploration, and experimentation. The curricula are not based on health. In fact, many of today's "comprehensive sex education" curricula "eerily mirrors the 'FBI Molester Grooming Paradigm.'"

<http://cnsnews.com/blog/j-matt-barber/hhs-grooming-children-sex-using-tactics-mirroring-fbis-pedophile-profile>

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

Please do not pass this bill. Keep the "opt in" policy as is.

February 10, 2015

To: House Committee on Health

From: Cheryl Toyofuku, Pearl City, HI

Re: Opposition to HB 459 Relating to Health

Hearing: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 8:35 am., Room 329

Chairman Belatti and the House Committee on Health

I oppose comprehensive sex education in the schools and the policy in place should remain "opt in."

Please oppose HB 459.

Thank you,

Cheryl Toyofuku

Pearl City, HI

Re: HB 459

Aloha Rep Belatti and other esteemed Representatives, 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) and more pregnancies and hurting their chances for pregnancy later, 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.

In general, parents are the best teachers for their keiki. They 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.

The school system will have a very difficult time making comprehensive sex education fit the individual needs of every student which involves cultural, ethnic, and values related consideration for each child. We live in a very diverse, multicultural, multi religious culture. A one size fits all curriculum will not be able to address all the specifics that each child needs. An example of this has to do with my son's friend who said he almost fainted during sex ed class in 7th grade. This young man was obviously not ready to receive this information.

Some parents have challenges in parenting and communicating with their keiki about sexual matters. If this is the case, allow the parent to opt in to a sex ed program. Assuming that there is full disclosure on what will be taught (and this has NOT been the case with current programs). In addition, we agree with the bill that says that sex ed needs to be medically accurate (current programs have NOT been medically accurate). Since parents are the best teachers, opt in should be the foundation for sex ed programs.

Sex ed is best taught by parents.

Mahalo,
David Willweber
1135 Mokapu Blvd
Pastor of Mauka Makai Ministries—Kailua
Member of School Community Council for Kainalu Elementary School
Vice President of P.E.A.C.E. HI

creagan3 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 8:41 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: wching12@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Ching	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose any comprehensive sex education program for our DOE schools. PARENTS must be given time to evaluate with an OPT-IN CHOICE. NO DOE mandated sex education for our Keiki.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 9:42 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: ron.kalani@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lavinia Kiaaina	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Government should not impose it's values on the minds of children. Stick to teaching reading, writing and arithmetic! Spend time influencing our children to be excited about their academic excellence and becoming equipped to take their place as a contributor to their society rather than focusing on teaching the acceptance of "sexual experimentation camouflaged as education" Programs of this nature should be "opt-in" not opt-out.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 10:12 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: kukahikoe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eldean Kukahiko	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to HB459. According to DOE Regulation #2210.1 presently, "Sexual Health Education requires an opt-in for parents." . This proposed legislation is describing and "opt out" for parents in Section 2 (g). Why would we want to go backwards? Please be more for our keiki and parents. Please do not pass this bill. Mahalo for allowing me to share my opinion.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 11:03 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: newseason4u@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn Villamor	Non-profit for at-risk children	Oppose	No

Comments: We oppose comprehensive sex education in the schools and the policy in place should remain "opt in." PLEASE OPPOSE HB 459. Mahalo!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 12:50 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: n2_dance@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Woods	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Feb 11, 2015 8:35a Committee on Health Re: Bill #HB459 Hawaii State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Comprehensive Sex Education I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex it should be an "opt-in" program only. Sincerely, Angela Woods Paho, HI

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 12:10 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: janetg@attentionplus.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Grace	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Chair Au Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan and members of the Committee: As a long time director of organizations that exist to equip and prepare our children and youth for excellence in all areas of their lives I strongly oppose HB459. My experience through the years with our keiki and youth clearly show they are plagued and challenged with many decisions they are not mature enough to decide and as a result suffer with severe and sometimes life threatening consequences. I've counseled both girls and boys having underage sex who have expressed suicidal thoughts and feelings of depression and shame. These feelings only lead to more risky behaviors and a life of hopelessness and lack of self worth and confidence. Parents must also have knowledge and full access to their child's curricula so they can guide and articulate their families values throughout the most important years of their kids lives. Government needs to limits it authority to parenting. These laws undermine the role of parents and erode the family structure. This bill allows teachers to answer questions on a child's sexual curiosity. This is wrong. Students have told me of adults other than family members who have provided contraception, birth control and even taken teens to abortion clinics. How would you feel as a parent knowing your neighbor or someone you trusted took your 13 year old to have an abortion or helped her obtain birth control? Please help us do the best job of protecting our keiki by providing a true picture of sex education through abstinence based only programs. Mahalo nui loa and again please kill this harmful bill. Sincerely, Janet Grace

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:23 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: bkunio@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bruce K. Meyers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am very much opposed to the idea that you have to work to get out of inappropriate sex education classes. The burden should be on those who want this kind of sex ed to request to be included. Backing up though, the kind of content proposed to be shown and taught to our keiki should not even be considered. It is not right!

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Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:10 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: tita911@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmen Navarro-Nakamura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Comprehensive Sex Education I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex it should be an "opt-in" program only. Any explicit material should be left for what we created the standard to be for adults which is 18 and over . All if its content should be left to the parent to decide what your child she view. Many families have to answer to a higher power and is our job to do our best to keep our child and what they know about the world limited and it's our job to teach him about the world. Mahalo Carmen Navarro-Nakamura

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:23 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: munky_mastr@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Villeza	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex it should be an "opt-in" program only. Thank you, Joseph Villeza Paho, HI

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creagan3 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:29 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: susan@surefoundation.tv
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Kaneshiro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I pray that we might all continue to fight a good fight and stand for righteousness in whatever part of the vineyard we may be.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:46 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: hcskim@hailschool.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim McCarty	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Feb 11, 2015 8:35a Committee on Health Re: Bill #HB459 Hawaii State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Comprehensive Sex Education I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. It is my personal belief that specific content of this curriculum is destructive and inappropriate for any 7th grader. I am strongly against it becoming a mandated or required curriculum in the DOE with an "opt-out" basis.

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To: HLTtestimony
Cc: apunatic@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John R. Bowers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The measure you are considering in my opinion is not suitable for students in Middle School grades, and therefore I oppose HB459. In the unfortunate event that this is passed, I hope there is an opt-out provision for parents so that this serious, important subject can remain the responsibility of family, and not Government.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:54 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: danny.melton@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: Dear Chair Belatti and Vice Chair Creagan: I oppose HB459. HB 459 is worded so ALL students are mandated to attend the comprehensive sex ed program classes instead of giving parents the opportunity to evaluate and choose to "opt-in" if parents want their child exposed to DOE mandated material. This is one more step toward further undermining parental rights. Sincerely, Danny Melton Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps (ret) 94-1033 Halepili St. Waipahu, HI 96797

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:59 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: andreamiday@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Miday	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex it should be an opt-in program only.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:47 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: hawaiianstylecuz@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maika Woods	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I do not support HB459! I strongly oppose this type of material being presented to the children in our school systems. I know and feel that the material is pornographic in nature and not appropriate for 7th graders to be learning. If this material it is forced into the school systems then it should be a "op-in" type of program. Please take into consideration my strong feelings and thoughts as a concerned citizen.

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To: HLTtestimony
Cc: susan@surefoundation.tv
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Kaneshiro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex it should be an "opt-in" program only.

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Dear Legislature,

My name is Steven Harris. I am a father of two young boys and am a concerned parent with relation to this proposed bill. Please vote no and continue to make it mandatory to opt in as a parent to have their children subjected to pornographic education materials, DO NOT make it opt out only. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Steven D Harris

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 3:17 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mmtorreano@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Torreano	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Last year, when the DOE and Legislature tried to force the very disturbing and inaccurate Pono Choices sex education curriculum on Hawaii's keiki, the citizens of Hawaii spoke loud and clear- we do not trust you to decide what sex education the schools teach. HB459 attempts to invalidate citizen concerns by changing the ground rules from parents having to "opt in" to making them "opt out." Stop fiddling with this and accept the right of the parents to choose. Stop trying to force us to accept your solution and be consistent when you boast you are "pro choice" and prove it by voting NO on this bill.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:34 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mrysrn@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Serion	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to this being an opt-out program and desire it to remain opt-in, if, indeed, it needs to be presented at all. Furthermore, I feel it is inappropriate to be presented to all 7th grade students because instead of addressing typical sexual behavior, it presents abhorrent practices as normal and usual. The mouth and anus are not sexual organs; they have a much different function, and should not be taught to children as such. What one chooses in adulthood is their own option, but I do not want my 12-year-old child "enlightened", especially without my expressed, written consent. I look for your no vote on this bill. Mahalo, Mary Serion

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creagan3 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 3:11 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: pastorray7@msn.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM*

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raymond Glory, Jr.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:32 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: bafe@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: My name is Barbara Afe and I am opposed to HB459. I am one of the parents who 20+ years ago asked the DOE to distribute opt out letters to parents of public school students. We parents were opposed to the sex ed curriculum then, school based health clinics and condom distribution at the schools. We couldn't trust the DOE to show us the curriculum that was being used. We were shown the glossed over version. A DOE employee gave us the complete curriculum. We couldn't trust the DOE to be honest with us then. We have no reason to believe they have changed. Opt in allows parents the choice to have their children under the age of consent to learn all about sexual practices, even though many of these practices are status offenses. If the parent agrees, it rests on them. Opt out leaves it to the school to inform the parents (in all languages understood by the parents?). If the legislature approves this bill, please sign your names to the DOE document. Let the parents know that you support this sexualizing of young children. Long ago, one of our parent group suggested that the DOE put a stamp of approval on every condom distributed in public schools. This would hold them legally liable. They didn't distribute them. If you are all so sure that this bill is in the best interest of the child, then please sign your names to the opt out letter and let the public know of your support. Respectfully submitted Barbara Afe

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 8:42 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: barbieb514@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: I would like to voice my strong opposition to HB459. I believe that what will be introduced to seventh graders is not appropriate. I feel that any program that is going to be talking about sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex should remain an opt-in program only. There are many of us who still hold strong feelings on this being taught to seventh graders.

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To The House of Representatives

Feb 10, 2015

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 9:10 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: gerry@nihipali.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benjamin K Nihipali Jr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose comprehensive sex education in the schools and the policy in place should remain "opt in." Pono choices curriculum was full of mis or wrong information and it was suppose to have been put together by experts and shoved down our throats. Now they want to get around it and slant it another way. Your have lost our TRUST. Again: I oppose comprehensive sex education in the schools and the policy in place should remain "opt in." Thank you!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 8:45 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: rhodes_cd@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christina rhodes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: To Whom It May Concern: It is with immense disappointment and incredible concern that the legislature has taken up the forced approach with regard to subjecting our children to Pono Choice again. HB 459 reverses the Opt out choice by opting In! This is not acceptable for this curriculum. it appears the motivation of the legislature is a tactic to subject our children to sex education curriculum that is arguably not age appropriate and NOT based on science and reproduction. It is not the teachers, school, DOE and/ or legislatures right to teach my son about oral, anal or various other kids of sex at the age of 11. Forcing my son to endure this type of curriculum at such a young age, is a moral violation and does not advance his develop in this society. It is not the place of a legislature, who has no obligation or understanding of my family to decide what my son is subjected to with regard to sex education that is outside of basic reproduction fact! For these reasons, I respectfully ask you to vote NO on HB459 It is my duty as a parent to protect my child from offensive curriculum like Pono Choices which is endorsed by special interest who have absolutely no other concern then advancing their agenda! Respectfully, Ms. Christina Rhodes

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 10:51 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: rinne@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Corinne Uehara	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, I am against HB459. I don't want Pono Choices taught to our children in our public schools; I feel it's an inappropriate curriculum. I am against HB459 because I believe it's bringing Pono Choices closer to becoming a mainstay in our schools. I also want to see an "opt-in" policy, rather than "opt-out". Thank you for your consideration.

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 9:43 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: ed7778@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis Stockton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: In 2014 the people of Hawaii voted to make Pono Choices Sex Education opt-IN only. I oppose the Democrat Party's effort to nullify the will of the people and force Democrat Party family values on the people of Hawaii by passing HB459.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 3:51 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: ted.peck@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Peck	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose comprehensive sex education in the schools and the policy in place should remain "opt in." The last thing we need to do as a society is disempower the parent further. They have to sign releases for their child to go to the zoo; don't cut them out of a decision of orders of magnitude more important. Please oppose HB 459.

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 7:03 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: sblackiston@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sonia Blackiston	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this important legislation for the benefit of our youth, families and communities.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 4:07 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: nskitchen3@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nancy kitchen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HB 459 as I did last year as it is NOT appropriate for all 7th graders and should be an op in program only! PLease do not trample on a parents right to have impact on what their children learn Nancy Kitchen

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 2:25 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: belayon@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Farah Jensen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education program for Hawaii's schools. I do not believe the the content is appropriate or applicable to all 7th graders. If there is to be any program containing such explicit material regarding sexual promiscuity or homosexual sex, it should be an "opt-in" program only. Mahalo, Farrah Jensen Kea'au, HI

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 6:40 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: make84404@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Moke Stephens	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Feb 11, 2015 8:35a Committee on Health Re: Bill #HB459 Hawaii State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Comprehensive Sex Education I am writing to urge you to please oppose the Comprehensive Sex education Bill HB459. The content of the suggested program is not appropriate for 7th graders and should remain an "opt-in" program. Sincerely, A. Moke Stephens Keaau, Hawaii

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 7:34 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: ben@nihipali.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Geralyn G. Nihipali	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: OPPOSE HB 459 I oppose comprehensive sex education in the schools and the policy in place should remain "opt in". Why do these sex education matters need to be discussed in a school curriculum? Aren't there more important matters to teach to our children? Are your minds so warped? Our children today are going to be adults in a world/society that we have created and this curriculum isn't going to help them at all. OPPOSE HB 459

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 2:59 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mpellersels@pphi.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: I support HB 459 as I believe that an opt out policy serves the needs of our community better.

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 7:02 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mawilson@netscape.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael A, Wilson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It should not require parents to opt out of the DOE's sexuality health education. [Right now, keiki are initially opted out of the program and it should remain that way.] Quit trying to sneak bills thru that undo what the citizens want.

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February 10, 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. It would only cause him to want to have sex. That is what I believe this bill will do for all kids. I should be allowed to opt-in IF I want him to learn about this. Passing this bill would clearly take my rights away. I strongly oppose this bill.

Thank you,

Grace Alarcio

91-1156 Hoomahana Street

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 6:11 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: suttonmatthew@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew E. Sutton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: HB459 attempts to invalidate citizen concerns by changing the ground rules from parents having to "opt in" to making them "opt out." I am a pro-choice advocate, but do not have confidence that the DOE can prepare a curricula free of political bias. I ask that you vote: "NO" on HB-459

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Re: HB-459 RELATING TO HEALTH

Dear Committee on Health Members,

Please be advised I am deeply concerned about this measure related to sex education in our public schools.

We've already fought for the rights of parents to opt out of the "Pono Choices" program. However, as I'm reading this bill, it would make it mandatory for all students to attend sex ed classes unless the parents choose to opt out. NO! NO! NO!

This is an abhorrent and subversive way of indoctrinating students as young as 11 years old to deviate sexual practices which are also putting them at risk for sexually transmitted diseases! Do you really believe children as young as 11 years old need to be taught about anal and oral sex?

I implore you to scrap this bill of sexual indoctrination and stop meddling in the role of parental/child relationships and focus more on abstinence-based education. The more our kids know ... the higher the teen pregnancy rate has soared ... ENOUGH!

Mahalo,

Margaret Peary

Lanai City, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 10:54 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: loureneriley@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: Feb. 11, 2015 8:35 a.m. Committee on Health RE: Bill#HB459 Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Comprehensive Sex Education I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex, it should be an "opt-in" program only. This whole PONO CHOICES agenda for our school children is a disgrace.

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 9:15 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: lorenehcs@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM*

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorene Olson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 7:59 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: jamee.adams@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jamee Adams	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex it should be an "opt-in" program only. Sincerely, Jamee Adams

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 4:34 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: janetkuester@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Kuester	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex it should be an "opt-in" program only. I find the fact that our legislators want to require such education for children without first asking parents if they want the current law changed literally appalling. Please do NOT move to change the current statute.

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 7:05 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: drjasonadams@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Adams	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Feb 11, 2015 8:35a Committee on Health Re: Bill #HB459 Hawaii State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Comprehensive Sex Education I am writing in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. I do not believe that the content of the suggested program is appropriate for all 7th graders. If there is to be any program with such explicit detail regarding sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex it should be an "opt-in" program only. Sincerely, Jason Adams Hilo, HI

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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February 10, 2015

Committee on Health
Re: Bill #HB459
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Comprehensive Sex Education

I am in opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Sex Education. The content of this suggested program is NOT appropriate for 7th graders. This program contains explicit detail about sexual promiscuity and homosexual sex that is not age appropriate. This should be an "opt-in" program only.

Sincerely,
Judi Mellon
Hilo, Hawaii

creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 8:21 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: jklyons1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB459 on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM

HB459

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for HLT on Feb 11, 2015 08:35AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeffrey Lyons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: STRONG OPPOSITION TO HB459 I am in opposition to HB459. This is legislation will mandate the knowledge and values of Pono Choices into all grades (K - 12). This is not needed in our public school system.

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To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Health
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 8:35 a.m.
Place: Queen Liliuokalani Building, Rm. 329
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in Support of H.B. 459

Dear Chair Belatti and Members of the Committee on Health,

I write in support of H.B. 459 as it seeks to promote the health and safety of our youth by ensuring that all public school students receive the most effective sexual health education. Our failure 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 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 (tied with South Carolina's as the 10th) highest in the country and costs Hawaii taxpayers around \$32 million per year.

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 our children's future — their 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.

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 a role 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 safe, healthy and responsible decisions.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Joanna Amberger