



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

Date: 03/23/2016

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: 309

Committee:

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 137/HR 89 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO AFFIRM ITS COMMITMENT TO UPHOLD THE TENETS OF TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENT ACT OF 1972.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education ("Department") supports HCR 137/HR 89, which requests the Department to affirm its commitment to uphold the tenets of Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972 ("Title IX") and to provide a study on our progress in implementing the federal requirements of Title IX. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities which receives federal financial assistance.

As to HCR 137/HR89's specific request that the Department (1) increase electronic and physical accessibility to Title IX information; (2) examine, revise, adopt and widely disseminate grievance procedures; (3) commit to increasing Title IX staff and resources; and (4) provide regular training to Department students and employees on Title IX; the Department has already initiated steps to comply with these items. HCR 137/HR 89 also requests the Department to examine the possibility of establishing a Title IX Coordinator in each complex area. The Department is willing to explore the responsibilities and costs that may be associated with the creation of such positions in each complex.

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

HAWAII
STATE
COMMISSION
ON THE
STATUS
OF
WOMEN



Chair
LESLIE WILKINS

COMMISSIONERS:

SHERRY CAMPAGNA
CYD HOFFELD
MARILYN LEE
JUDY KERN
AMY MONK
LISA ELLEN SMITH

Executive Director
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March 23, 2016

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

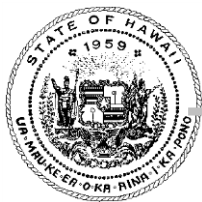
From: Cathy Betts
Executive Director
Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in Support, HCR 137/HR 89

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HCR 137/HR 89. Title IX, renamed the “Patsy Takemoto Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act”, prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in the administration of any education program receiving federal financial assistance. Additionally, Title IX aims to prevent sexual harassment, sexual assault, discrimination against pregnant and parenting students, and the use of stereotypes and other barriers to limit a person’s access to a particular field of study or career. This law has been in place for over 40 years, yet hundreds of departments of education have been investigated for Title IX compliance, including our own.

Under Title IX, all school districts, colleges, and universities receiving federal financial assistance must designate at least one employee to coordinate their efforts to comply with and carry out their responsibilities under Title IX, or a Title IX coordinator. Each school is required to publish their respective Title IX coordinator’s contact information in the school’s notice of nondiscrimination, typically found in any bulletins, announcements, publications, catalogues, application forms, or other recruitment materials. The Title IX coordinator’s contact information should also be prominently posted on a school’s website. These practices not only serve students; they also serve parents and employees of a school and provide notice of important federal rights and remedies under the law.

Title IX has been instrumental in increasing educational opportunities for women and girls and fostering equality between men and women. Increased opportunity starts from a young age, and all young men and women should know they deserve an education free from hostility or discrimination. These resolutions request our DOE affirm its commitment to uphold the tenets of Title IX. The Commission strongly supports these resolutions and respectfully urges this Committee to pass them.



HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411 HONOLULU, HI 96813 · PHONE: 586-8636 FAX: 586-8655 TDD: 568-8692

March 23, 2016
Rm. 309, 2:00 p.m.

To: The Honorable Roy M. Takumi, Chair
The Honorable Takashi Ono, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Linda Hamilton Krieger, Chair
and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

Re: H.C.R. 137/H.R. 89
(Companion Resolutions S.C.R. 110/ S.R. 76)

The Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai‘i’s laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state funded services. The HCRC carries out the Hawai‘i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5.

H.C R. 137 requests the Department of Education to affirm its commitment to uphold the tenets of Title IX of the education Amendment Act of 1972.

The HCRC supports H.C.R. 137. The resolution supports the intent and requirements of Title IX to eliminate sex discrimination in education, including adoption of grievance procedures. Additional protections for students are vitally needed.

Teachers and other adult employees in our public schools are protected from discrimination and have greater protection under Title VII and Chapter 378, Part I, H.R.S., against sexual and other discriminatory harassment than minor students.

Students do not have those protections under state law. Greater enforcement of Title IX, providing for protection against discriminatory harassment in publicly-funded educational institutions would help protect students from discriminatory harassment. HCRC supports and applauds efforts to increase accessibility to Title IX resources, and provide training and resources which will help students be free from harassment.

For these reasons, the HCRC encourages the Committee to pass H.C.R. 137/H.R. 89.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 11:59 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: annsfreed@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR137 on Mar 23, 2016 14:00PM

HCR137

Submitted on: 3/22/2016

Testimony for EDN on Mar 23, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann S Freed	Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno and members, The Women's Coalition is in strong support of this bill. We support the Women's Legislative Caucus in offering this resolution. This resolution about Title IX, also known as the Patsy Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act, will help to further a discussion about full implementation of the Act in our public schools. In order for a girl to be educated she needs to be free of sexual harassment and predation, not only from staff, but as importantly from her peers. The sexual bullying that has been allowed to go on for years has become accepted as the norm with each case being treated as an isolated incident. Title IX mandated coordinators for a reason. If trained coordinators exist throughout the system then hostile environments within the public schools will be addressed in a systematic way. Mahalo for hearing our testimony, Ann S. Freed Co-Chair Hawaii Women's Coalition

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 12:08 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: laurie.field@ppvnh.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR137 on Mar 23, 2016 14:00PM*

HCR137

Submitted on: 3/21/2016

Testimony for EDN on Mar 23, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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