

**SB1347**



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

**Date:** 02/06/2015  
**Time:** 01:15 PM  
**Location:** 229  
**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 1347 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Allows public schools, upon appropriate approval, to use school resources to distribute to students and their families third party promotional materials that contain information about a community event or are produced by or offer services from a nonprofit organization if the material meets specified criteria.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education supports SB1347 because we believe it is important for our public schools to engage with community non-profit organizations. It is also our belief that decisions related to appropriate dissemination of relevant informational materials at schools, regarding community events, are best made by Principals, with input from their school community.

Allowing public schools to utilize state resources to distribute third-party promotional materials that have a clear benefit for students, which align with the department's educational mission or strategic plan tracks Board of Education Policy 1110-8 (Public Service & User Friendly Schools) which provides that:

*The Hawaii State Department of Education is supported by public funds to serve the educational needs of the people of Hawaii. Its direct customers are the parents and the children of our State. It indirectly serves all the citizens of Hawaii.*

*All members of the Board of Education and all employees and volunteers in the Department of Education view themselves as public servants and endeavor to treat members of the public in a courteous and responsive manner.*

This bill, which provides the authority under HRS Chapter 302A relating to Education, will enable our public schools to utilize state resources to distribute third-party promotional materials, within specific criteria, as detailed in the bill. We therefore ask for your favorable

consideration of this measure.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1347 on Feb 6, 2015 13:15PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 05, 2015 6:21:24 AM

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**SB1347**

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for EDU on Feb 6, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Golojuch Jr	GLBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Where is the money appropriation to: A) implement this bill? Because these things won't be delivered by magic. It will take staff time and resources at a cost to all tax-payers. B) Defend this law in court when the DOE gets sued for a principal giving an organization unfair access because he or she does not like an organization or they are anti-whatever that non-profit is promoting. Or the lawsuit a parent files the first time they are offended by the content of a groups message or mission, even if it in line with the DOE's mission. Just look at the anti-vaccination cult that is growing. If fighting to ensure that ALL clubs are treated equally and fairly has taught the GLBT Caucus anything it is that principles need very strict guidelines when they are given the authority to enforce any rules of this nature. This bill does not do that and we find it completely unnecessary. Public schools are supposed to be a place of education not promoting any non-profit's events. These organizations don't pay taxes let them use their own funds to promote their events. Leave our public schools to educating our keiki. How does this bill further the DOE's mission and goal of education. For all these reasons we ask that you hold this bill in committee.  
Mahalo, Michael Golojuch, Jr. Chair

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**Date:** Thursday, February 05, 2015 11:58:35 AM

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**SB1347**

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for EDU on Feb 6, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sherry Campagna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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