

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 03/21/2016
Time: 02:30 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2232, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Creates and appropriates funds for the Erin's Law task force to guide the establishment of a program to educate public school students on sexual abuse prevention through use of age appropriate curricula, provide relevant training to school teachers and staff, and inform parents about important child sexual abuse topics. Sets out guidelines of instruction. (SB2232 HD1)

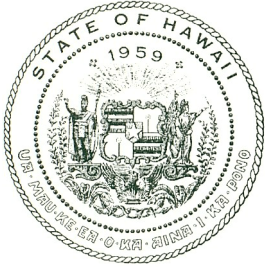
Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 2232 SD2 HD1 which establishes and appropriates funds for an Erin's Law task force to be convened by the legislature.

Respectfully, the Department requests the insertion of the substantive content of HB 1787 HD2 for a manageable task force focused on achieving the targeted outcomes of this measure within the desired time frame.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

HAWAII
STATE
COMMISSION
ON THE
STATUS
OF
WOMEN



Chair
LESLIE WILKINS

COMMISSIONERS:

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

Executive Director
Cathy Betts

Email:
Catherine.a.betts@hawaii.gov
Visit us at:
humanservices.hawaii.gov
/hscsw/

235 S. Beretania #407
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: 808-586-5758
FAX: 808-586-5756

March 21, 2016

Testimony in Support of SB 2232, SD2, HD1, Relating to Education

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

From: Cathy Betts, Executive Director
Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 2232, SD2, HD1, Relating to Education

The Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women is in support of SB 2232, SD2, which would mandate the implementation of a sexual abuse prevention curriculum within our Department of Education and create a taskforce to assist and guide with curriculum implementation.

Sexual abuse is a difficult subject for most people to talk about. Our educators are not immune to this difficulty. Predators of children bank on people being resistant to talking about sexual abuse. Silence about the subject allows predators to continue—when we don't know the warning signs, when our children are scared or threatened into thinking mistreatment is acceptable, when we do not raise awareness about this issue—abusers continue.

Sexual abuse prevention and education is crucial for educators and students to have. While some sexual abuse prevention education is offered to our DOE, implementation is not consistent system wide and resources for the provision of training and education are limited. Yet, children are largely at risk for sexual abuse and remain at high risk of being abused by a family friend or family member. Additionally, there are multiple intersections with childhood sexual abuse, mandated reporting, and the federal requirements of Title IX, which we know multiple state educational institutions are not compliant with.

As a result, public school students may not receive regular, consistent sexual abuse prevention education. Parents and guardians may not receive information about child sexual abuse topics; and educators and school staff may not receive sufficient training on talking to students about child sexual abuse prevention, the effects of sexual abuse on children, handling disclosures and mandatory reported to child welfare.

The Commission supports SB 2232, SD2, HD1, and respectfully requests that your Committees pass this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII
Executive Office on Early Learning
1390 Miller Street, Room 303
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 18, 2016

TO: Roy Takumi, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

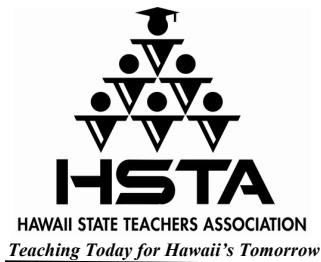
FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director

SUBJECT: SB 2232, SD2, HD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION
Hearing Date: Monday, March 21, 2016
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Location: Conference Room 309

Purpose of Bill: Creates and appropriates funds for the Erin's Law task force to guide the establishment of a program to educate public school students on sexual abuse prevention through the use of age appropriate curricula; provide relevant training to school teachers and staff; and inform parents about important child sexual abuse topics. Sets out guidelines of instruction.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) supports the intent of this bill and its commitment to addressing the safety and well-being of students (pre-kindergarten to grade twelve) in the prevention of sexual abuse.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION

RE: SB 2232, SD2, HD1 - RELATING TO EDUCATION.

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2016

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports SB 2232, SD2, HD1**, relating to education, **with suggested amendments**.

Schools are, perhaps, the one social institution outside of the family in which children have constant contact with adults and their peers. It is an optimal place, then, to identify children in danger of sexual maltreatment.

Teachers are naturally empathetic toward their students. Yet, studies have shown that up to 81 percent of teachers receive little preservice information about abuse and neglect and only 66 percent have been given inservice (on the job) information. As this committee's preamble notes, programs currently exist, in Hawai'i, to train teachers and staff, and provide sexual abuse prevention education to students, but implementation of these programs is woefully inconsistent.

It is important that both teachers and students be informed on how to prevent sexual abuse and handle it when it occurs. Accordingly, we urge you to **add a public school teacher appointed by the Hawaii State Teachers Association to the task force** to ensure that the classroom experience and teacher-student dynamic are given adequate representation.

We additionally hope that you will consider **extending this bill to cover sex trafficking**. Anti-trafficking lessons are frequently requested by public school teachers to combat student exploitation and are included in coordinated protocols being developed for the Department of Education, Department of Human Service's

Child Welfare System, and Family Courts. While the bill current covers sexual abuse, sex trafficking is differentially defined as the use of “force, fraud, or coercion” in compel someone into the commercial sex trade. Public school students—or children who *should* be in school, but are instead sexually enslaved—can and have been found working as prostitutes at local massage parlors, strip clubs, hostess bars, and the streets of high-risk areas, and are advertised daily on websites like Backpage.com. The average age of a victim’s entry into sexual exploitation is in the early to middle teenage years, with vulnerability to exploitation being heightened by prior traumatic incidents, including sexual abuse. Since schools are primary gathering locations for children, they are also prime targets for pimps, johns, and traffickers, so much so that in 2011, lawmakers added the crime of “solicitation of prostitution near schools or public parks” (HRS 712-1209) to our criminal code. As we increase departmental capacity for intervening in cases sexual abuse, so must we safeguard against the closely related crime of sexual exploitation and provide educators with the tools needed to ease victims’ reentry into the classroom setting.

To protect our keiki from sexual exploitation, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 904 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Rick Collins, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive
Director

Big Brothers Big Sisters of
Hawaii

Bobby Benson Center

Central Oahu Youth Services
Association

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Student Television

Hui Malama Learning Center

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Life Foundation

Marimed Foundation

Maui Youth and Family Services

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together

(PACT)

Planned Parenthood of the

Great Northwest and

Hawaiian Islands

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community

Center

The Catalyst Group

Uhane Pohaku Na Moku

O Hawai'i

Waikiki Health

March 18, 2016

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

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2232 SD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 2232 SD2 Relating to Education.

One in five girls and one in twenty boys have been victims of child sexual abuse. Three out of four adolescents who have been sexually assaulted were victimized by someone they knew well. (National Center for Victims of Crime data).

The only education I received about sexual abuse as a child was to beware of strangers. But it was not a stranger who sexually abused me and five other girls in my fourth grade class – It was my school bus driver. Every child on the bus witnessed the abuse daily for a month or more until someone finally reported it to the school. When we were questioned about it, we believed that we were the ones who had done something wrong.

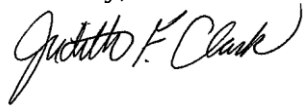
If we had received education about sexual abuse, we would have recognized it immediately, known how to seek help, and understood that we were not to blame for what occurred. It could have been stopped after the first episode.

No child deserves sexual abuse, and prevention education in the schools is a powerful tool to prevent it. Fortunately, Hawaii has many of the resources needed to provide education to prevent sexual abuse including an evidence-based, culturally relevant curriculum developed by the Sex Abuse Treatment Center that is already in use in some public schools.

Hawaii Youth Services Network would be pleased to serve on the Erin's Law Task Force.

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



Hawaii
Children's Action Network
Building a unified voice for Hawaii's children

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Address

850 Richards Street
Suite 201
Honolulu, HI
96813

P: (808) 531-5502

March 21, 2016

To: Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Chair
Rep. Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair
House Committee on Education

From: Deborah Zysman, Executive Director
Hawaii Children's Action Network

Re: **SB2232, SD1 – Relating to Education - Support**
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 309 – March 21, 2016 – 2:30 PM

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network (HCAN), formerly Good Beginnings Alliance, we are writing in support of SB2232, SD1 – Relating to Education.

HCAN is committed to improving lives and being a strong voice advocating for Hawai'i's children. Last fall, HCAN convened input in person and online from more than 50 organizations and individuals that came forward to support or express interest for a number of issues affecting children and families in our state that resulted in the compilation of 2016 Hawai'i Children's Policy Agenda, which can be accessed at <http://www.hawaii-can.org/2016policyagenda>.

HCAN supports SB2232, SD1 – Relating to Education, which would appropriate funds for an Erin's Law Task Force to guide the establishment of a program to educate public school students on sexual abuse prevention through the use of age-appropriate curricula.

Twenty-six states have enacted a model of "Erin's Law," named after a child abuse victim in Illinois, that requires all public schools in each state implement a prevention-oriented child sexual abuse program which teaches:

- Students in grades pre-K – 12th grade, age-appropriate techniques to recognize child sexual abuse and tell a trusted adult;
- School personnel all about child sexual abuse;
- Parents & guardians the warning signs of child sexual abuse, plus needed assistance, referral or resource information to support sexually abused children and their families.

It is estimated that one in ten children will become the victims of child sexual abuse by the time they reach age 18. It's critical that we provide safeguards to protect children from being prey to child sexual abuse.

For these reasons, HCAN respectfully requests that the committee vote to pass this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 2:17 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: annsfreed@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2232 on Mar 21, 2016 14:30PM

SB2232

Submitted on: 3/21/2016

Testimony for EDN on Mar 21, 2016 14:30PM in Conference Room 309

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

Comments: The Hawaii Women's Coalition, as in previous testimony, is in strong support of Erin's Law. We hope that a task force will lead to the passage of a law sooner than later. Every year that such a law is not in place is another year that our children are at risk from predators. Mahalo, 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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1431 Ehupua St. Honolulu, HI 96821 · (808) 854-1148

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TESTIMONY–SB 2232, SD2, HD1, Relating to Education

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2016

Jeanné Kapela, UNITE Hawaii Executive Director

POSITION: SUPPORT, WITH AMENDMENTS

Chair Takumi and committee members,

Hawai'i is home to over 150 high-risk sex trafficking establishments, with the average age a victim is first exploited being only 13-years-old. We are also a target for “cybertrafficking,” with over 110,000 ads for local prostitution posted online each year. Yet, the numbers fail to fully capture the human toll of the commercial sex trade, a tragedy we witness each day in the eyes of the survivors we serve.

UNITE is an educational nonprofit devoted to ending sex trafficking in Hawai'i, created by Miss Hawai'i 2015 Jeanné Kapela. Through outreach and awareness in local schools, we provide students with the skills necessary to prevent exploitation by building healthy relationships and learning communities. Our program, “It Ends With Us,” explains how trafficking works in the 21st Century, preparing students to recognize threatening situations and respond to potential abuse. To date, we have provided anti-trafficking education to thousands of keiki in our state’s public schools. Working with UNITE’s strategic partner, IMUAlliance, we have also helped to emancipate sex trafficking victims from local brothels in the Ala Moana area. For both victims who self-identify at schools we visit and those for whom we’ve provided direct intervention services, sexual abuse is often noted as a precursor to sex trafficking.

Thus, sexual abuse and sex trafficking are closely related. Yet, they are not the same. While sexual abuse involves forcing undesired sexual behavior by one person upon another, sex trafficking is the compulsion of a person into prostitution by force, fraud, or coercion. Traffickers often use intermediate and high school students to build their fortunes, preying upon teenage insecurities, sexual impulses, socioeconomic impoverishment, and, more recently, social media access to recruit, groom, and “break in” our youth for the sex trade. Victims of sex trafficking are highly traumatized to the point that they lose their sense of identity, sometimes becoming so dehumanized that they can no longer understand the concept of rape. Moreover, modern technology has made it easier to reach and threaten victims, as information is readily available on the internet. Online technology can also be weaponized to humiliate individuals through the rapid distribution of nonconsensual pornography.

We therefore ask that you amend this bill to include the sex trafficking prevention education as a concept for review by the task force. UNITE employs a standards-based anti-trafficking curriculum that includes a post assessment and service learning component. At each school we visit, students have identified themselves or their peers as in danger or in the midst of being trafficked. Our model is under constant revision to maximize compliance with best educational practices and newly enacted education policies, and is overseen by professional educators and education specialists. We are currently reviewing its comportment with the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. To ensure that the task force hears the experiences and strategies of advocates working to end commercial sexual exploitation and, more importantly, survivors of this horrible crime, we request that strategies for identifying victims of sex trafficking and preventing commercial sexual exploitation be added to the bill as an item for task force consideration and that a sex trafficking victim services provider be added to the task force’s composition.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



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

**TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 2232, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT
1, RELATING TO EDUCATION**

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

**Monday, March 21, 2016, 2:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309**

Honorable Chair Takumi and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing the IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 350 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in strong support of SB 2232, SD2, HD1, relating to education.

IMUAlliance is one of Hawai'i's leading providers of anti-sexual-exploitation education, teaching over 10,000 students each year about the perils of sex trafficking and the commercial sex trade. Victims are typically induced into exploitation between the ages of 12-14, years of heightened developmental vulnerability, and are often predisposed to exploitation by a complex traumatic history that may include child abuse or neglect, assault, sexual abuse, sexual assault, rape, and bullying.

We believe that education ends exploitation. When students are empowered with knowledge about the risk factors of sex trafficking and sexual abuse, they are able to spot the signs of abuse and take action to protect themselves, their peers, and their communities. Moreover, education guards against the psychological impact of abuse, which can include depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, dissociative disorder, explosive outbursts, self-injurious and suicidal behavior, and hyper-sexualization.

That said, **we ask that sex trafficking be explicitly included as a point of task force consideration** under Section 2, subsection (f) of the bill. Sex trafficking is, essentially, a commercialized form of sexual abuse. Moreover, the sex

trade is growing on our islands, which are home to an estimated 150 brothels and 110,000 online ads for local prostitution each year. We humbly suggest consideration of the following language to enact our requested amendment: **“(8) Strategies to identify victims of sex trafficking in public schools and to assist in the prevention of the sex trafficking of children.”**

We additionally **ask that this bill be amended to include a member of a sex trafficking victim services provider and a public school teacher as part of the task force**, since victim service providers have the experience to elucidate best practices with regard to the individualized trauma suffered by survivors of sexual slavery and teachers facilitate educational programming and curricula, while managing student response and intervention frameworks.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Executive Director
IMUAlliance



THE SEX ABUSE TREATMENT CENTER

A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children

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Councilmember
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David I. Haverly

Linda Jameson

Michael P. Matsumoto

Robert H. Pantell, MD

Joshua A. Wisch

DATE: March 21, 2016

TO: The Honorable Roy Takumi, Chair
The Honorable Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair
House Committee on Education

FROM: The Sex Abuse Treatment Center
A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children

RE: Testimony in Strong Support of S.B. 2232, S.D. 2, H.D. 1
Relating to Education

Good afternoon Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and members of the House Committee on Education.

The Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) strongly supports S.B. 2232, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, which creates and appropriates funds for an Erin's Law task force to guide the establishment of a program to education public school students on sexual abuse prevention through the use of age appropriate curricula; provide relevant training to school teachers and staff; and inform parents about important child sexual abuse topics, and sets out guidelines of instruction.

Sexual abuse remains a serious and ongoing threat to the safety, health and wellbeing of children and young people in the State of Hawaii. Nationally, 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men have been the victim of sexual assault in their lifetimes. Of these, 44% were under the age of 18 at the time of the assault. This is consistent with SATC's experience on Oahu – in 2014, of the 637 victims who sought care for the first time at SATC, 51% were children. It is important to note that these numbers do not reflect the total number of victims on Oahu or in our state, but only those who were able to seek help from our center.

Given the high incidence of sexual abuse perpetrated against minors, it is important that children and young people be taught the knowledge and skills necessary to protect themselves against sexual violence and obtain help to end abuse as quickly as possible. Moreover, it is critical that those who interact the most with children and young people, including parents, other guardians, educators and school staff, receive sufficient training to understand issues of sexual violence and respond appropriately.

Through a contract with the State Department of Health (DOH), SATC currently delivers training to teachers, counselors and school administrators on a series of age-appropriate, evidence-based curricula for sexual abuse prevention education. Each of the four curricula, designed for students in kindergarten through 2nd grade, 3rd grade

through 5th grade, middle school, and high school, were developed locally in close partnership with the State Department of Education (DOE), teachers from both public and private schools, and the University of Hawaii's Teacher Institute of Education, and they all are DOE-approved to fulfill existing health education requirements.

Despite these combined efforts, it is our understanding that implementation of sexual abuse prevention education curricula is not consistent system wide, and resources for the provision of training and education are limited. Consequently, students in Hawaii may not receive regular, consistent child abuse prevention education, nor are parents informed about child sexual abuse topics. In addition, many school teachers and staff do not receive sufficient training on talking to students about child sexual abuse prevention, the effects of sexual abuse on children, handling sexual abuse disclosures, and mandated reporting.

Laws requiring that public school systems implement a program of regular, consistent sexual abuse prevention education for students, teacher and staff training, and parental involvement, have passed in 26 states and the Territory of Guam, and have been introduced in the legislatures of 17 others. These laws and the programs they would create represent a national trend in safety, health and wellbeing education and are collectively referred to as "Erin's Law" after an Illinois survivor of child sexual abuse, Erin Merryn, who has led the national movement for required programs for child sexual abuse prevention education.

S.B. 2232, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 is necessary to provide the State of Hawaii the means to design and plan a strong, sustainable program to consistently make sexual abuse prevention education available to all public school students.

In order to do so, this measure would follow the model of several other states that have successfully adopted Erin's Law, by bringing together stakeholders from the legislature, relevant state agencies and the community in order to collaboratively review existing policies, programs and curricula; assess service gaps and needs; and make well-informed recommendations through a transparent, report-driven process.

Therefore, we respectfully urge you to support S.B. 2232, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2016 8:49 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: susan.wurtzburg@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2232 on Mar 21, 2016 14:30PM*

SB2232

Submitted on: 3/19/2016

Testimony for EDN on Mar 21, 2016 14:30PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan J. Wurtzburg	American Association of University Women, Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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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