



SCR61

Measure Title:	ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROMOTE INCREASED PARTICIPATION BY SCHOOLS IN THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM PROGRAM.
Report Title:	Department of Education; Emergency Management; Community Emergency Response Team Program
Description:	
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	EDU, PSM
Introducer(s):	KIDANI, BAKER, CHUN OAKLAND, DELA CRUZ, NISHIHARA, Harimoto, Keith-Agaran, Riviere



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

Date: 04/05/2016
Time: 01:30 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 061 ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROMOTE INCREASED PARTICIPATION BY SCHOOLS IN THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM PROGRAM.

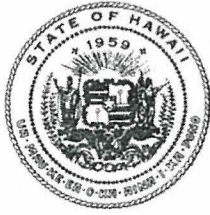
**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) recognizes the intent of SCR 061 and offers comments.

The federal Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is currently administered by the counties (<https://www.honolulu.gov/demvolunteer/cert.html>). CERT training is free. Youth ages 14-17 may attend with a parent or legal guardian. Additionally, schools may arrange for CERT training for their students. High schools, including Campbell, Farrington, Kapaa, Roosevelt and Waimea, have participated in the CERT program. This program is fully developed and implemented. Should this Concurrent Resolution pass, the Department will encourage high schools to continue to arrange CERT training for their students through their respective county.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SCR 061.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

April 5, 2016

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senate Concurrent Resolution 61/Senate Resolution 33 – Encouraging the Department of Education to Promote Increased Participation by Schools in the Community Emergency Response Team Program

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports Senate Concurrent Resolution 61 and Senate Resolution 33 - Encouraging the Department of Education to Promote Increased Participation by Schools in the Community Emergency Response Team Program.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is administered by the County Department of Emergency Management and Civil Defense agencies and offered to youth, between the ages of fourteen and eighteen, accompanied by family members or guardians. It is always positive to train youth in emergency preparedness, because what is learned in school will carry over into the student's adult life and create community resilience.

A DCAB staff member completed the CERT program in 2014 and notes that the class included teenagers with their parents. As an agency, DCAB also encourages people with disabilities (including students with disabilities) to participate in the CERT program to learn about personal awareness. We support all efforts to educate the public, including students with disabilities, to become involved and learn emergency readiness skills and then volunteer during a disaster. The general public usually does not consider that people with disabilities can assist others during an emergency. However, by including people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs in the CERT program, we begin to address the whole community by teaching personal responsibilities and preparing for emergencies through community education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,


BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG
Chairperson
Legislative Committee



FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director