



SR33

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

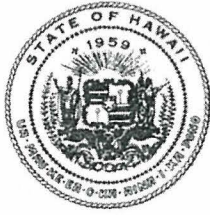
Description:

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: EDU, PSM

Introducer(s): KIDANI, CHUN OAKLAND, DELA CRUZ, NISHIHARA, Baker, Harimoto, Keith-Agaran, Riviere



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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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

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SR33 on Apr 5, 2016 13:15PM*
Date: Thursday, March 31, 2016 3:43:04 PM

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Submitted on: 3/31/2016

Testimony for PSM on Apr 5, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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I support SR33, which encourages the DOE to promote an increase in participation by school in the CERT program. The passage of this bill will encourage students to participate in the Community Emergency Response Team program. Having the skills to know what to do in emergency situations is so important. Anyone can be in an emergency situation and knowing basic response skills can help save a life. Also there are many jobs now days that require employees to have basic knowledge of CPR. This program will enable these students to have a basic understanding of these skills. I fully support SR33 and I hope you do too.