
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING FEDERAL FUNDING TO PROVIDE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS
IN EVERY INTERMEDIATE AND HIGH SCHOOL IN HAWAII THAT
REQUESTS IT.

1 WHEREAS, there have been a number of recent school
2 shootings reported in the news across the country, including
3 Parkland, Florida; and Benton, Kentucky; and
4

5 WHEREAS, in Parkland, Florida, a gunman killed seventeen
6 unsuspecting students and adults at Marjory Stoneman Douglas
7 High School, and in Benton, Kentucky, a student shot sixteen
8 students, killing two other students, at Marshall County High
9 School; and
10

11 WHEREAS, in light of the recent increase in school
12 violence, it is imperative that federal funding go toward
13 protecting the students of Hawaii; and
14

15 WHEREAS, a valuable resource to ensuring safer schools
16 where students can thrive are school resource officers; and
17

18 WHEREAS, a school resource officer is a career law
19 enforcement officer with sworn authority responsible for safety
20 and crime prevention in schools; and
21

22 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice Office of
23 Community Oriented Policing Services offers grants to cities and
24 counties for creating law enforcement positions, including
25 school resource officer positions; and
26

27 WHEREAS, in 2016, the United States Departments of
28 Education and Justice jointly released the Safe, School-based
29 Enforcement through Collaboration, Understanding, and Respect
30 Rubrics to help education and law enforcement agencies that use



1 school resource officers to review and revise policies to
2 improve school safety and better outcomes for students; and
3

4 WHEREAS, school resource officers also have the opportunity
5 to build trust and gain respect from students by providing
6 positive police interaction and outreach to students; now,
7 therefore,
8

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the
11 House of Representatives concurring, that federal funding is
12 requested to provide school resource officers in every
13 intermediate and high school in Hawaii that requests it; and
14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to members of Hawaii's
17 congressional delegation.



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, President⁹

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of
Hawaii

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of
West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action
Network

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

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

PHOCUSED

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community
Center

The Catalyst Group

LATE

April 2, 2018

To: Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
And members of the Committee on Education

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SCR 64 SD 1
REQUESTING FEDERAL FUNDING TO PROVIDE SCHOOL
RESOURCE OFFICERS IN EVERY SCHOOL IN HAWAII

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, opposes SCR 64 SD 1.

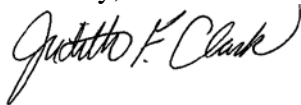
HYSN is concerned that an increasing police presence at schools will "criminalize" student behavior by moving problematic students to the juvenile justice system rather than disciplining them at school. Throughout the country arrest rates for students are higher in schools with school resource officers.

Hawaii has the lowest rate of gun violence in the United States. Our gun laws and our aloha spirit combine to prevent the kind of tragedies that have taken place in Florida and other states.

Having armed resource officers in our public schools is neither necessary or desirable.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director



Committee: House Committee on Education
Hearing Date/Time: Friday, April 13, 2018, 2 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 309
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in opposition to S.C.R. 64, S.D. 1,
Requesting Federal Funding to Provide Resource Officers in Hawai'i Schools

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kong, and Committee Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i ("**ACLU of Hawai'i**") writes in opposition to S.C.R. 64, S.D. 1, which, in light of recent school shootings, including the recent shooting in Parkland, Florida, requests federal funding to provide school resource officers in every school in Hawai'i that requests it.

The ACLU of Hawai'i supports taking a hard look at the systems designed to protect children in Hawai'i and there are a number of effective measures that do not raise any civil rights concerns, including investing in community mental health services, adding more school counselors, and expanding programs to help our youth develop the skills to navigate crises.

Students, however, should not bear the burden of additional measures. Already, kids in Hawai'i—especially Native Hawaiians, Filipino, Marshallese, Palauan, Micronesian, and students with disabilities—are being referred to law enforcement for misbehavior once handled by school administrators. Adding more school resource officers without defining their role will inevitably increase such referrals, which in Hawai'i already appear to be high according to U.S. Department of Education data. **Indeed, in Kaua'i, where they already have school resource officers in high schools, minors are around ten times more likely to be arrested than in the rest of Hawai'i.**¹

School shootings and school violence is a complex problem that requires a thoughtful response. Over policing students—just as arming teachers—is neither effective nor fair to the students. For example, in Florida, eighty percent of districts already have an officer at every high school; many have more than one. And yet, they are too often involved in routine discipline, resulting in increased youth interaction with the criminal justice system.

In summary, hastily reacting to tragedy without examining the current system to keep students safe would be counterproductive. Therefore, we respectfully request that your Committee defer the matter to consider what set of measures would be most effective to keep Hawai'i students safe without compromising their civil rights.


¹ Based on the latest publicly available information from 2012 and using demographic information from the United States Census Bureau. See Office of the Attorney General, *Juvenile Delinquency Trends in Hawaii* at 10 & 98 (May 2014), available at https://ag.hawaii.gov/cpja/files/2013/01/Data-Book-for-2003_2012.pdf.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801
T: (808) 522-5900
F: (808) 522-5909
E: office@acluhawaii.org
www.acluhawaii.org

April 13, 2018
S.C.R. 64, S.D. 1
Page 2 of 2

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Matteo Caballero
Legal Director
ACLU of Hawai'i

The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai'i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawai'i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawai'i has been serving Hawai'i for over 50 years.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801
T: (808) 522-5900
F: (808) 522-5909
E: office@acluhawaii.org
www.acluhawaii.org

LATE

SCR-64-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/13/2018 8:25:14 AM

Testimony for EDN on 4/13/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Russo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE LATE

Written Only

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO
SUPERINTENDENT



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

Date: 04/13/2018
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education
Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education
Title of Resolution: SCR 064, SD1 REQUESTING FEDERAL FUNDING TO PROVIDE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS IN EVERY INTERMEDIATE AND HIGH SCHOOL IN HAWAII THAT REQUESTS IT.

Purpose of Resolution:

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) is in strong support of SCR 064, SD1 requesting federal funding to provide School Resource Officers (SRO) in every intermediate and high school in Hawaii that request it. Federal funding is critically needed in funding sufficient number of SRO positions for approximately 63 HIDOE intermediate, middle, and high schools on the islands of Hawaii, Oahu, Maui, Kauai, and Molokai.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.