

MAR 08 2018

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT ON HOW MUCH
FUNDING IS REQUIRED FOR ON-CAMPUS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS.

1 WHEREAS, recently, mass shootings at schools have become an
2 epidemic in America, striking fear into students, parents, and
3 teachers throughout the country; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the recent school shooting at Marjory Stoneman
6 Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, is another saddening
7 event that illustrates how severe school shootings have become
8 and demonstrates the importance of creating a safe environment
9 in all educational institutions; and
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11 WHEREAS, in an attempt to better secure and protect
12 schools, states have been utilizing local law enforcement
13 officers by stationing the officers in schools; these officers
14 have come to be known as school resource officers; and
15

16 WHEREAS, school resource officers are well-trained officers
17 who are skilled in handling armed weaponry and specifically
18 stationed in schools to prevent any crime, gang related
19 activity, and address any issue that could threaten the safety
20 of the students and faculty; and
21

22 WHEREAS, the school resource officers work with the school
23 administration and teachers to not only protect students and
24 faculty, but to also teach topics related to law enforcement
25 geared toward positive student behavior and act as informal
26 counselors for students; and
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28 WHEREAS, in 1999, the federal government established the
29 "Cops in Schools" grant program that awarded over \$750,000,000
30 to hire school resource officers throughout the United States;
31 and
32



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1 WHEREAS, the funding that was provided by the federal
 2 government to maintain school resource officers has since been
 3 depleted; and

4
 5 WHEREAS, the lack of funding has not prevented other
 6 counties from providing a safe environment in schools by
 7 continuing to support school resource officers; and

8
 9 WHEREAS, because of the value that the officers had on the
 10 campuses, schools in the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui
 11 have maintained school resource officers in certain schools
 12 despite the lack of federal funding; now, therefore,

13
 14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
 15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the
 16 House of Representatives concurring, that the Honolulu Police
 17 Department is requested to report on the costs of funding
 18 on-campus school resource officers, including but not limited to
 19 manpower, amount of officers necessary, and any other costs
 20 required for officers to be stationed in intermediate and high
 21 schools on the island of Oahu and to provide a report to this
 22 body no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the
 23 2019 Legislature; and

24
 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
 27 Board of Education, Superintendent of the Department of
 28 Education, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Chair of
 29 the City Council of Honolulu, and Chief of Police of the
 30 Honolulu Police Department.

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 32
 33



Ronald H. Behr
 Anne Marenco
 Dream Hunt



OFFERED BY:

Michelle A. Sudani
Jessica A. Moore
 [Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten signature]
 will [unclear]



S.C.R. NO. 65

~~SC~~ SC with Anna
Mike Hobbs
Clarence & Mishkan



Written Only

DAVID Y. IGE
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DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO
SUPERINTENDENT

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

LATE

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 065 REQUESTING THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT ON HOW MUCH FUNDING IS REQUIRED FOR ON-CAMPUS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS.

Purpose of Resolution:

Department's Position:

The Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) is in strong support of SCR 065 requesting the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) to report on how much funding is required for on-campus School Resource Officers. There are a total of 48 HIDOE intermediate, middle, and high schools on Oahu.

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.



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. 65.
Requesting the Honolulu Police Department to Report the Cost of Funding On-Campus School Resource Officers in Intermediate and High Schools on Oahu*

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. 65, which, in light of recent school shootings, including the recent shooting in Parkland, Florida, requests the Honolulu Police Department to report the costs of funding on-campus school resource officers in intermediate schools and high schools on the island of Oahu.

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, before going down the path of placing school resource officers in schools on Oahu, 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.

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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.

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LATE

SCR-65

Submitted on: 4/13/2018 8:25:40 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: