

SR-35

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 2:19:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/21/2018 2:46:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

SR-35

Submitted on: 3/16/2018 3:16:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/21/2018 2:46:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I support the intent of this bill, however, because our school system is statewide, I feel that the Sheriff Division should be the primary enforcement agency to provide resource officers. Thank you.

SR-35

Submitted on: 3/17/2018 2:33:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/21/2018 2:46:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Pcola_Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

I support the concept. More thought into the position description and requirements would need to be determined prior to figuring how much funding is required.

SR-35

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 8:37:08 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/21/2018 2:46:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joel Berg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am dismayed that we protect our politicians, our police, our soldiers, and even individuals refilling ATM's with firearms yet somehow we see it as immoral to protect our children with the same vigor. Today in Maryland a school shooting was stopped without innocent loss of life because of the swift action of an armed school resource officer. Our children deserve better and it is well within our ability to provide for their protection with armed resource officers, more secure facilities, and to allow teachers to conceal carry as they already do in other states.

Captain Joel Berg



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March 20, 2018

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

OPPOSE SR35 (unless amended)

Chairs, Vice-chairs, and committee members,

The very first statement/premise is false: “[R]ecently, mass shootings at schools have become an epidemic in America .“

Schools are safer than they were in the 90s, and school shootings are not more common than they used to be, researchers say

“There is not an epidemic of school shootings,” he said, adding that more kids are killed each year from pool drownings or bicycle accidents [not to mention car accidents]. There are around 55 million school children in the United States, and **on average over the past 25 years, about 10 students per year were killed by gunfire at school** [and that includes suicides], according to Fox and Fridel’s research.

The deadly school shooting this month in Parkland, Florida, has ignited national outrage and calls for action on gun reform. But while certain policies may help decrease gun violence in general, it’s unlikely that any of them will prevent mass school shootings, according to **James Alan Fox, the Lipman Family Professor of Criminology, Law, and Public Policy at Northeastern.**

<https://news.northeastern.edu/2018/02/schools-are-still-one-of-the-safest-places-for-children-researcher-says/>

Further “premises”/purported statements of “fact” are also false, but let's look at the proposed “solution”.

Just today a School Resource Officer, armed with a handgun, confronted an attempted murderer at Great Mills High School in Maryland with the result that the attempted murderer immediately ended his crimes.

It's clear from this example, and others of law-abiding armed people confronting armed criminals that such confrontations almost always either end the crimes or minimize the crimes compared to what would have happened had the criminal not been confronted by armed resistance.

Therefore, rather than merely studying the cost of placing SROs into schools, the study should include the broader solution of arming school personnel (staff, teachers, administrators, custodial, etc.) who would volunteer to be armed and undergo some training to deal with potential violent criminals in the school environment.

Please delete the factually inaccurate statements from this resolution and broaden it to include the possible arming of any volunteering school personnel.

Thank you,
George Pace