

JAN 18 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STUDENT INFORMED CONSENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that for decades,
2 students have participated in the dissection and vivisection of
3 animals as part of traditional educational curricula. However,
4 advancements in computer software now make it possible for
5 schools to respect each student's ethical, moral, or religious
6 position regarding the humane treatment of animals without
7 sacrificing learning objectives.

8 The purpose of this Act is to allow public school students
9 to decline participation in dissection, vivisection, and other
10 procedures harmful to animals and to require public schools to
11 make educational alternatives to the dissection and vivisection
12 of animals available to all students.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
15 and to read as follows:

16 "§302A- Student's informed consent to decline
17 participation in animal dissection and vivisection. (a) A



1 student enrolled in kindergarten through grade twelve in any
2 public school in the State may decline to participate in or
3 observe, wholly or in part, any of the following activities
4 involving animals as part of a course of study: dissection,
5 vivisection, incubation, infliction of harm, capture, or
6 destruction of an animal. A student may also decline to
7 participate in or observe any part of surgery, other invasive
8 procedures or experiments performed on an animal, or any
9 termination of life.

10 (b) A student who exercises the student's right to decline
11 participation in any of the activities involving animals
12 described in subsection (a) shall be given a suitable
13 alternative education project designed to provide the student
14 with factual knowledge, information, or experience required by
15 the course of study.

16 (c) If a test requires the use of dissection or dissected
17 specimens, students shall be offered an alternative test that
18 does not use such specimens.

19 (d) A student shall not be penalized or discriminated
20 against, with regard to grade for the class, removal from the



1 class, or otherwise, for refusing to participate in or observe
2 any activities described in subsection (a).

3 (e) The board shall adopt necessary rules to ensure the
4 proper administration of and compliance with this section,
5 including but not limited to rules requiring notification of all
6 schools and requiring each school to notify its students and
7 their parents, in writing, at a time to be specified by the
8 board, that all students have the right to refuse participation
9 in or observation of any activities involving animals described
10 in subsection (a)."

11 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Mike Gabel
Steve Ly
Breanne Hunt
DC Smith-Adams



S.B. NO. 256

Report Title:

Student Informed Consent to Animal Dissection and Vivisection;
Public Schools

Description:

Allows public school students in grades kindergarten through 12 to decline participation in dissection, vivisection, and other procedures harmful to animals. Requires schools to make alternative educational projects available, and the board of education to develop rules and give notice to all schools.

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