
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INCREASE ACCESS TO TRAUMA-
INFORMED CARE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO EXPERIENCE
SEXUAL VIOLENCE.

1 WHEREAS, sexual violence and sexual harassment are growing
2 concerns on public school campuses; and

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4 WHEREAS, sexual violence and sexual harassment impair
5 students' ability to concentrate on educational objectives and
6 compromise students' sense of safety and overall well-being; and

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8 WHEREAS, under Title IX of the Education Amendments of
9 1972, all forms of sexual harassment and sexual violence are
10 prohibited in any education program or activity that receives
11 federal funding; and

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13 WHEREAS, according to a survey conducted by the American
14 Association of University Women, fifty-eight percent of students
15 in grades seven to twelve report experiencing sexual harassment;
16 and

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18 WHEREAS, according to the nonprofit organization Stop
19 Sexual Assault in Schools, thirty-two percent of students who
20 experienced sexual assault or sexual harassment reported not
21 wanting to go back to school after being assaulted or harassed;
22 and

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24 WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of
25 Education, nearly half of teens who experience teen dating
26 violence, including sexual violence, experience abuse on campus;
27 and

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29 WHEREAS, according to the anti-abuse organization Break the
30 Cycle, eighty percent of high school counselors feel unprepared



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1 to provide trauma-informed care to students who report being
2 abused; and

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4 WHEREAS, trauma-informed care involves providing school
5 staff and students with the skills and support necessary to
6 manage reactions to traumatic stress and build a positive school
7 climate; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
10 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
11 2020, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education is
12 urged to increase access to trauma-informed care for public
13 school students who experience sexual violence; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
16 requested to offer training in trauma-informed care to teachers,
17 administrators, and school staff to improve reporting,
18 preventing, and intervening in cases of sexual violence
19 throughout the Department; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
22 urged to collaborate with victim service providers that assist
23 survivors of sexual violence in the development of school-based
24 programs and protocols to help identify and support students who
25 are victims of sexual violence; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at least twenty days prior to
28 the convening of the Regular Session of 2021, the Department of
29 Education is requested to submit to the Legislature a report of
30 its progress in implementing trauma-informed care practices
31 throughout the Department, including any proposed legislation;
32 and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant
36 Governor, members of the Board of Education, and the
37 Superintendent of Education.

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OFFERED BY: *Amy Peruso*
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