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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495



STOP SCHOOL VIOLENCE PROGRAM

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2703 HD 1
RELATING TO PREVENTING SCHOOL VIOLENCE

PRESENTATION TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

BY

PATRICIA KICKLAND
PROGRAM MANAGER, STOP SCHOOL VIOLENCE PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 10, 2020

Chair Chris Lee, Vice-Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, and members of the Committee on Judiciary: I am Patricia Kickland, Program Manager for the Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing School Violence (“STOP”) program. STOP operates in partnership with the Hawaii State Fusion Center (“HSFC”) under the State of Hawaii Office of Homeland Security (“OHS”), Department of Defense (“DOD”). STOP provides written testimony in **SUPPORT OF THE INTENT** expressed in this measure, as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget. We defer to the agency with direct responsibility for implementation. STOP also offers amendments. This Bill seeks to prevent school violence by establishing a pilot program for threat assessment in schools; and providing funding for program management and threat assessment.

The STOP program seeks to prevent acts of targeted school violence, such as school shootings and bombings. STOP currently is funded through a federal grant. STOP resources may be used to train students and school personnel on preventing student violence against others and themselves; to develop and operate anonymous reporting systems for threats of school violence; to develop and operate school threat assessment and intervention teams; and to support any other measure that may provide a significant improvement in training, threat assessments and reporting, and violence prevention.

Since the STOP program began operating in Hawaii on September 20, 2019, there have been at least twenty-five (25) threats of targeted violence against Hawaii public K-12 schools. Even though none of the threats has come to fruition, the threats themselves have caused trauma to students, parents, and school personnel. Schools have gone into lockdown. Attendance has suffered. School events have been cancelled. The constant barrage of threats has caused communities to wonder whether the next threat could be real. At the same time, when students keep hearing about bogus threats, students develop complacency and may be less likely to report new threats to trusted adults.

The good news is that research shows that targeted school violence may be prevented by threat analysis. On November 7, 2019, the U.S. Secret Service published “A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Targeted School Violence.” Key findings included information about attackers’ motives, use of firearms, psychological, behavioral, or developmental symptoms, interest in violent topics, social stressors, negative home life factors, bullying, school disciplinary actions, and prior contact with law enforcement. An especially important finding was that all attackers exhibited some kind of concerning behavior that elicited concern from others – yet the people who observed the behavior did not act.

This Bill would provide support for the establishment, training, and operation of school threat assessment teams. These teams, which include school personnel, mental health professionals, law enforcement, and other interdisciplinary team members, can be trained to distinguish between credible versus negligible threats. Members of the teams combine the knowledge that they have about the concerning signs of violence, with the members’ area of expertise, and then assess the threat. These teams then mitigate threats against schools by making sure that the students who make the threats get the help needed to avoid future acts of violence.

Social media often provides a motive for targeted school violence, as well as a means of assessing credible threats. Attackers may suffer cyber bullying. Attackers may also use social media to communicate their intent to cause violence in schools. For that reason, social media has become an important source of information when there is a targeted threat of violence. STOP and/or the HSFC have encountered multiple school threats posted online, including photos of guns and posts saying the author would use bombs or firearms to cause violence.

This Bill would provide support for social media analysis in threat cases. Such analysis is important to assess whether threats are credible so that educational institutions and law enforcement may make decisions on the level of response necessary. The analysis is also important to spot trends and copy-cat threats.

STOP does recommend that this Bill be amended. Please see the attached chart.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2703 HD 1.

Patricia Kickland, Program Manager
STOP School Violence Program
Office of Homeland Security
Office: 808-628-2338



Section 2 (a)	Page 3, Line 9, after “Hawaii”	Delete “State Fusion Center of the”
Section 2(a)(1)	Page 3, after Line 19 “cases,”	Insert “(C) Standardized procedures for reporting threats, and for immediate response, threat assessment, threat management and monitoring, after-action reports, and statewide recordkeeping; (D) Protocols for sharing information across agencies.”
Section 2(a)(2)(A)	Page 4, Line 1, after “including”	Insert “but not limited to”
Section 2(a)(2)(B)	Page 4, Line 7, after “teams”	Insert “and”
Section 2(a)(3)(A-C)	Page 4, Lines 8-15	Delete.
Section 2(a)(4)-(5)	Page 4, Lines 16 to 21	Renumber. “ (4) (3) Collect data...” “ (5) (4) Disseminate information...”
Section 2(a)(4)	Page 4, Line 20	Delete “state and county”
Section 2(b)(1)	Page 5, Line 3, after “the”	Insert “State of Hawaii”
Section 2(b)(2)	Page 5, Line 7, after “school”	Insert “located in the State of Hawaii”
Section 2(b)(3)	Page 5, Line 8, after “education”	Insert “located in the State of Hawaii”
Section 2(b)(3)(A)	Page 5, Line 10	Delete “a sufficient number of “
Section 2(b)(3)(B)	Page 5, Line 13	Delete “many”
Section 2(c)	Page 5, Line 18 after	Delete “state fusion center of the”

	“Hawaii”	
Section 3(1)	Page 6, Line 9 after “mechanism”	Insert “to be established and operated within the Hawaii office of homeland security,”
Section 3(2)	Page 6, Line 12-17	Delete original and then insert amended text: “A school violence data collection system, to be established and operated within the Hawaii office of homeland security, to collect pertinent data on school violence and threats of school violence; to provide analysis to assist in identifying, assessing, monitoring, and managing threats; and to provide analysis to assist in the future development and implementation of programs to promote school safety and public safety.”
Section 3(4)	Page 7, Line 1 after “positions”	Insert “within the Hawaii office of homeland security”
Section 3(4)(B)(i)	Page 7, line 18 after “to”	Insert “agencies involved in preventing school violence, including but not limited to”
Section 3(4)(B)(iii) and (iv)	Page 8, Lines 1-9	Reverse order. “ (iii) <u>(iv)</u> Facilitate...” “ (iv) <u>(iii)</u> Assist...”
Section 3(4)(B)(iv)	Page 8, Lines 6-9	Delete original and then insert amended text: “(iii) Assist threat assessment teams, agencies participating in the teams, and other agencies involved in preventing school violence, with operating threat assessment teams, sharing information between and within agencies, and monitoring cases.”

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PREVENTING SCHOOL VIOLENCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a threat of
2 targeted violence against Hawaii schools. Between January 1,
3 2019, and November 19, 2019, forty-five school shootings
4 occurred over forty-six weeks across the United States. The
5 shootings occurred at elementary, middle, and high schools, as
6 well as on college and university campuses. Although Hawaii
7 schools have not yet fallen victim to completed acts of mass
8 violence, the State's schools do regularly experience threats of
9 shootings and bombings. During the fall of 2019, public K-12
10 schools in Hawaii received more than twenty-five threats about
11 shootings or bombings. Most threats were made via social media;
12 the others were made by handwritten notes, graffiti, or
13 telephone. Although the threats were never carried out, they
14 caused fear and apprehension among students, parents, teachers,
15 and the community.

16 On November 7, 2019, the United States Secret Service
17 published "A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Targeted School



1 Violence". This report studied forty-one incidents of targeted
 2 school violence that occurred at K-12 schools in the United
 3 States between 2008 and 2017. Key findings of the study suggest
 4 that school violence is preventable. School-based and
 5 community-based threat assessment teams can use this knowledge
 6 and become trained to determine whether threats are credible or
 7 not. These teams may identify persons of concern before they
 8 commit acts of violence. Furthermore, intervention strategies,
 9 including counseling, mentorship, and thorough follow-up, can
 10 mitigate the threat to help the person of concern and also
 11 prevent serious acts of violence.

12 The legislature further finds that currently, gaps exist in
 13 inter-agency coordination, communication, and standardized
 14 responses to threats of targeted school violence in Hawaii.
 15 There is no statewide database of school threats to help
 16 identify copycats; analyze trends; and disseminate information
 17 to schools, law enforcement, and other agencies that need to
 18 protect students.

19 The purpose of this Act is to help prevent targeted school
 20 violence in Hawaii by:

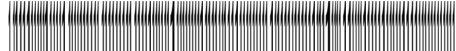


- 1 (1) Establishing a pilot program to establish a start-to-
- 2 finish response to threats of targeted school
- 3 violence; and
- 4 (2) Providing long-term resources to help prevent targeted
- 5 school violence, regardless of how the State chooses
- 6 to implement future school violence prevention
- 7 strategies.

8 SECTION 2. (a) There is established within the Hawaii
 9 state [~~fusion center of the~~] office of homeland security,
 10 established by section 128A-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, a pilot
 11 program to:

- 12 (1) Establish:
 - 13 (A) Interdisciplinary school-level threat assessment
 - 14 teams at the elementary, intermediate, middle,
 - 15 and high school level as well as the college or
 - 16 university level; and
 - 17 (B) A larger-scale interdisciplinary threat
 - 18 assessment team to which the school-level teams
 - 19 may refer cases;

- 20 (2) Provide:
 - (C) Standardized procedures for reporting threats, and for immediate response, threat assessment, threat management and monitoring, after-action reports, and statewide recordkeeping;
 - (D) Protocols for sharing information across agencies.



but not limited to
v

1 (A) Training for the general public, including
2 students, school personnel, and the community,
3 regarding the prevention of targeted school
4 violence as well as the general concepts of
5 threat assessment and intervention; and

6 (B) More advanced training for members of threat
7 assessment teams and
v

~~8 [(3) Operate threat assessment teams:~~

~~9 (A) To establish procedures for reporting, immediate
10 response, threat assessment, threat management
11 and monitoring, after-action reports, and
12 statewide recordkeeping;~~

~~13 (B) To establish protocols for sharing information
14 across agencies; and~~

~~15 (C) Pursuant to established procedures and protocols;~~

16 ~~[(4)]~~ Collect data on school violence, threats, responses to
3
17 threats, the operation of threat assessment teams, and
18 the resolution of cases; and

19 ~~[(5)]~~ Disseminate information on copycat threats, trends,
4
20 and analyses to the appropriate [~~state and county~~]
21 agencies.



1 (b) The pilot program:

2 (1) Shall include one elementary school, one middle or ^vstate of Hawaii

3 intermediate school, and one high school from the

4 department of education that are geographically and

5 socially related;

6 (2) May include one independent school and one public

7 charter school; ^vand located in the state of Hawaii

8 (3) May include one institution of higher education;

9 provided that the institution of higher education:

10 (A) Enrolls [~~a sufficient number of~~] students who

11 graduated from the high school identified in

12 paragraph (1); and

13 (B) Dual-enrolls within its classes [~~many~~] students who

14 are still attending the high school identified in

15 paragraph (1).

16 (c) No later than twenty days prior to the convening of

17 the regular sessions of 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, the Hawaii

18 9 [~~state fusion center of the~~] office of homeland security shall

19 submit to the legislature a report of its findings and

20 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, concerning

21 the pilot program.



1 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent
2 the office of homeland security from using other available
3 resources to assist educational institutions other than those
4 identified in subsection (b).

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of\$ or so
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
8 the following purposes: to be established and operated within the
Hawaii office of homeland security

9 (1) A statewide anonymous reporting mechanism specifically
10 designed to collect reports of threats of targeted
11 school violence;

~~12 [(2) A database to collect reports of threats to schools
13 and school violence that were:~~

~~14 (A) Received by the anonymous reporting mechanism
15 identified in paragraph (1); or~~

~~16 (B) Collected by law enforcement, educational, and
17 other agencies;]~~

18 (3) Other technological tools to enable analysis of social
19 media and other data;

Insert at Page 6, Line 12, after "violence"

A school violence data collection system, to be established and operated within the Hawaii office of homeland security, to collect pertinent data on school violence and threats of school violence; to provide analysis to assist in identifying, assessing, monitoring, and managing threats; and to provide analysis to assist in the future development and implementation of programs to promote school safety and public safety.



within the Hawaii office of homeland security
v

1 (4) Four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) positions, which
2 shall be exempt from chapter 76, Hawaii Revised
3 Statutes, as follows:

4 (A) Three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) analysts to:

5 (i) Operate the statewide anonymous reporting
6 mechanism;

7 (ii) Analyze threats delivered via social media;

8 (iii) Analyze additional data relevant to school
9 violence; and

10 (iv) Disseminate information to appropriate
11 agencies in individual cases and
12 periodically inform agencies and the public
13 about copycat threats and trends in school
14 violence; and

15 (B) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) program
16 manager to: agencies involved in preventing school
17 violence, including but not limited to

18 (i) Organize outreach and training to the
19 general public and to educational
institutions;

20 (ii) Organize training for school-level and
21 larger-scale threat assessment teams;



1 ~~[(iii)]~~ Facilitate larger-scale interdisciplinary
 2 (iv) threat assessment teams by calling and
 3 attending meetings, coordinating efforts
 4 among agencies within the team, and keeping
 5 records of cases;

~~6 [(iv) Assist in establishing procedures and
 7 protocols for creating and operating threat
 8 assessment teams and reporting among various
 9 agencies; and]~~

10 (v) Coordinate efforts with other student-safety
 11 programs.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
 13 defense for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050;
 15 provided that section 3 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,
 16 2020; provided further that section 2 of this Act shall be
 17 repealed on June 30, 2024.

Delete Page 8, Lines 6-9 and insert after "cases:"

(iii) Assist threat assessment teams, agencies participating in the teams, and other agencies involved in preventing school violence, with operating threat assessment teams, sharing information between and within agencies, and monitoring cases.



H.B. NO. 2703
H.D.1

Report Title:

School Violence; Prevention; Pilot Program; Appropriations

Description:

Establishes a pilot program to prevent targeted school violence. Appropriates funds to the office of homeland security for resources to prevent targeted school violence. Takes effect on 7/1/2050. Repeals on 6/30/2024. (HD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.



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, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hawaii

Big Island Substance Abuse Council

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Collins Consulting, LLC

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 Health & Harm

Reduction Center

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Kokua Ohana Aloha (KOA)

Maui Youth and Family Services

Na Pu'uwai Molokai Native

Hawaiian Health Care Systems

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

PHOCUSED

PFLAG – Kona Big Island

Planned Parenthood of the

Great Northwest and

Hawaiian Islands

Residential Youth Services

& Empowerment (RYSE)

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community Center

The Catalyst Group

February 3, 2020

LATE

To: Representative Chris Lee, Chair
And members of the Committee on Judiciary

Comments on HB 2703 Relating to Preventing School Violence

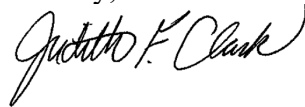
Hawaii Youth Services Network, a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, is providing comments on HB 2703 Relating to Preventing School Violence

Hawaii has a low rate of school violence and low risk of weapons use on school campuses. "The number of students caught carrying any kind of "firearm," including paintball guns, or even slingshots, has dropped to its lowest level in 10 years at Hawaii's public school campuses," the Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported on 2/3/2020.

Our children and youth have many more urgent and widespread issues where funding could be better used ranging from youth homelessness to child sexual abuse prevention. The data available does not support the need for a program to respond to targeted school violence.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

HB-2703-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/8/2020 1:51:04 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/10/2020 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dara Carlin, M.A.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2703-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 10:57:12 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/10/2020 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Esteemed Members of the Committee on Judiciary,

I write in support of House Bill 2703, House Draft 1.

Targeted school violence is an increasing threat to the safety of our keiki. Our department and university system already experience multiple threats against campuses. We must not rationalize or 'normalize' the behavior of predatory and unstable persons who promise violence. Threats of violence often do lead to acts of violence.

We cannot rely on the federal government to be our protector in all things. Our Federal Bureau of Investigation is constrained. Like most federal agencies is implemented in Hawai'i through a multi-state regional organization that does not leave enough dedicated assets here to respond to dynamic threat situations. Threats can and do quickly become carried-out events and crisis.

This pilot program, established in HB2703, is the first step to a more prepared educational system. By building on the capabilities of the Fusion Center, the proposed program can help implement that which the FBI does nationally to protect our people. With the successful development of this program, and its requested 4 positions, our children may be safer when malevolence strikes. This measure holistically expects interagency coordination, training, threat assessment and the use of these new positions to analyze information systematically.

Again, I support HB2703 HD1, and thank Representative Yamane for introducing this thoughtful and timely measure.

Thank you,
Dylan P. Armstrong

HB-2703-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 12:21:14 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/10/2020 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Geraldyn Palalay	Department of Education	Support	Yes

Comments:

LATE

HB-2703-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 5:02:03 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/10/2020 2:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Azuma Chrupalyk	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

You can follow the statistical route of American governance - which obviously is not aligned with the present culture of Hawai'i, or you can open your eyes to realize that not one person in Hawai'i has a sense of true security and that the state is going to have to deal with a lot of issues before thinking that further progression is an answer.

It has statistically shown over many reports of behavioral progressions, that people are not naturally violent or volatile unless their needs are not being met. The state has kids going to school starving because their parents had to pay rent - which is so out of balance with the fair market wages in Hawai'i that almost all families are at risk and the disparities are becoming far too widespread. This economically classifies most families as "at risk" which is a huge financial burden on the state. Please google the Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

Where is our bottom-line security? That doesn't even lie with most professionals who move here for work in professional arenas! They go back [which by the way is a good thing to us, but also takes with it the services they could have provided, if they understood our culture or the fact that to live in Hawai'i is to suffer financial imprisonment].

Our local families have been left to their own devices in terms of the generational trauma, both Hawaiian and descendants of plantation era days. Nobody trusts anything in Hawai'i because everything is a lie. This is a constant divider in the common+unity.

Please review the list of problems to identify solutions that are going to work. The state views everything as risky because the state is giving hand-outs, not hand-ups. Give a hand up. Don't stress state funds to feed a man a fish, invest state funds in teaching a man how to care for and sustainably fish their own dinner.

Stopping violence starts when the state realizes that accepting social service applications from anyone and anywhere, without having cleaned up our own communities first, is also a thriving factor in why the state can't take care of its own people.

Be the voice of unity. Lead the people by example.

Make a politician lo'i day quarterly

Make a politician farmer day quarterly.

Make a politician fast food day quarterly.

Learn to see through the eyes of your people. Don't just remember working Mc D's through high school, know what that job is like today, for \$10/hour. See the difference in your style of living today, on those wages, working crazy schedules that daycares aren't open for, unable to either drive legally or feed the kids, stressing over bills, and trying to be the school supportive mother/volunteer of the year. Try it. Tell me that your kids can go to little league while you battle these problems. Free can't even happen because the parents are working during transportation times. ALL of this that I wrote, is why the communities are generally frustrated and that crime is on the rise. Of course there are more reasons, but state led stability would be very helpful at stopping the problems. A police report is just an additional reason for a parent to lose a job over a kid's choice, that will create a whole new snowball of stressors to the family and putting the family at further risk for a break-down to occur.