

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

76

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10 2021

RE: S.B. No. 703

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred S.B. No. 703 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require two hours of annual in-service training in suicide prevention for all teachers, principals, and school counselors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Disability Rights Center, E Ola Hou Prevent Suicide Maui County Task Force, and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Committee of the Prevent Suicide Hawai'i Taskforce.

Your Committee finds that suicide is the fourth leading cause of death for children between the ages of ten and fourteen, and is the leading cause of death for young people between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four. The percentage of teenagers in Hawaii who plan to commit suicide and the percentage of teenagers who attempt suicide are among the highest in the nation. Your Committee therefore recognizes that there is a need to increase the number of individuals in educational institutions, such as teachers, principals, and school counselors, who are trained to identify youth at risk of suicide and refer those children to appropriate services, counseling, and intervention. The Jason Flatt Act, first passed in Tennessee in 2007, requires all



educators to complete youth suicide awareness and prevention training every year as part of their state licensure to teach. Your Committee finds that it is the appropriate time for Hawaii to enact similar legislation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 703 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Education,

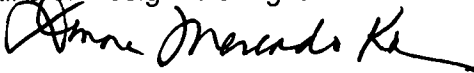


MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-First Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Education
EDU

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 703	Committee Referral: EDU, JDC	Date: 02/05/2021		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)	/			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	/			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
TOTAL	5			
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes