



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 02/24/2022

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 325 Via Videoconference

**Committee:** House Judiciary & Hawaiian  
Affairs

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Interim Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 2125, HD1 RELATING TO OFFICIAL SCHOOL BUSINESS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Creates a misdemeanor of harassment of an educational worker for disrupting or interfering with the administration or functions of any school, school administration office, or school board. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) is in full support of HB 2125, HD1. This is an administration bill requested by the Department and is necessary to address the growing problem of continuous and threatening harassment of educational workers by parents and members of the public. The polarization of society and overt disrespect for our government institutions that are fostered by social media have emboldened certain persons to harass and intimidate school officials with demeaning swear words and threats to their personal safety as well as job security when they have issues with the school.

The existing laws do not address educational workers who have become victimized by irrational and uncompromising parents and individuals whose goal is to taunt, harass, and intimidate school officials so that they give in to their unreasonable demands through coercion or by intentional delay tactics. Some of the tactics used are constant badgering, name-calling, and harassing of school officials with persistent telephone calls, flooding the answering machines to capacity so that legitimate messages from parents or other individuals cannot be received, rejecting mail and email notifications and thereby thwarting the school's ability to perform tasks mandated by federal and state laws. The unruly behavior disrupts the school environment, causes fear and anxiety in school officials, and undermines the school's ability to conduct its business,

fulfill its responsibilities, and meet required timelines.

This bill is not intended to apply to rational disagreements between parents and schools but is intended to apply to those individuals who cross the line of civility and thwart school operations by harassing threat, intimidation and coercion.

The Department appreciates the Legislature's support in ensuring the safety and well-being of its employees and students.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support on this measure.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF TALENT MANAGEMENT

**DATE:** 02/24/2022  
**TIME:** 02:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** CR 325 & Videoconference  
**COMMITTEE:** Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

**Department:** Education  
**Person Testifying:** Reid Kuba, Ph.D., Principal in Residence for the DOE's Leadership Institute  
**Title of Bill:** HB2125 RELATING TO OFFICIAL SCHOOL BUSINESS  
**Purpose of Bill:** Creates a misdemeanor of harassment of an education worker for disrupting or interfering with the administration or functions of any school, school administration office, or school board.

**Principals' Position:**

The various Principals across the state from the Hawaii State Department of Education ask that you respectfully consider our SUPPORT of HB2125.

My name is Reid Kuba and I am a Principal in Residence for the Hawaii State DOE. In my role, I specifically work with secondary principals from all islands, but also work with the elementary principals as well. HB2125 was determined to be of importance to Principals who represent their faculty, schools, and communities. Principals have direct knowledge and experience with the communities they serve.

Principals from the various islands have experienced both the increase in threats directed at school representatives and the severity of those threats. Principals understand when someone outside of the school may be upset and they work together to solve the issues for the betterment of students. However, they also understand that it is not acceptable when that anger crosses the line to threats and harassment.

Please see the attached list of Principals who SUPPORT HB2125. Please note that although I represent Principals, there are also Vice Principals who SUPPORT HB2125 and they have designated themselves as such on the list for your convenience.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of HB2125.

HB2125 - RELATING TO OFFICIAL SCHOOL BUSINESS. By filling in your name and information below, you agree that you SUPPORT HB2125 that creates a misdemeanor of harassment of an educational worker for disrupting or interfering with the administration or functions of any school, school administration office, or school board.

Principal Name	Name of School	Island	Complex
Momi Kaehuaea	Konawaena High School	Hawai'i	HKKK
Heather Dansdill	Hilo Intermediate School	Hawai'i	HW
Tammie Picklesimer	Waimea Elementary	Hawai'i	HKKK
Trisha Sanborn	Kohala Middle School	Hawai'i	HKKK
Dennis O'Brien	E.B. deSilva Elementary	Hawai'i	HW
James Denight	Kealakehe High School	Hawai'i	HKKK
Lisa Souza	Waiakea Intermediate School	Hawai'i	HW
Teddy Burgess	Konawaena Middle School	Hawai'i	HKKK
Amy Stafforrd	Kohala High School	Hawai'i	HKKK
Gregg Yonemori	Keaau Middle School	Hawai'i	KKP
Rachelle Matsumura	Honokaa High and Intermediate School	Hawai'i	HKKK
Jasmine Urasaki	Hilo High School	Hawai'i	HK
Hannah Loyola	Kohala Elementary School	Hawai'i	HKKK
Kasey Eisenhour	Keonepoko Elementary School	Hawai'i	KKP
Melissa Speetjens	Waimea Canyon Middle	Kauai	KKW
Brian Godsill	Kalaheo Elementary School	Kauai	KKW
Leila Maeda-Kobayashi	Koloa Elementary	Kauai	KKW
Kainoa Pali	Molokai Middle School	Maui	HLLM
Tracy Lui	Kihei Elementary	Maui	BKM
Stacy Bookland	Lahaina Intermediate School	Maui	HLLM
Nikan Arapoff	Wailuku Elementary	Maui	BKM
Noelani Castro (VP)	Wailuku Elementary	Maui	BKM
Halle Maxwell	Kihei High School	Maui	BKM
Amy Strand	King Kekaulike High School	Maui	BKKM
Timothy Shim	Pomaikai Elementary	Maui	BKM
Jo-Anne Higa	Maui High School	Maui	BKM
Barbara Oura Tavares	Lihikai Elementary	Maui	BKM
Daniel Espaniola	Kaunakakai Elementary	Molokai	HLLM
Shona Pineda	Kilohana Elementary School	Molokai	HLLM
Ronald Oyama	Kapalama Elementary School	O'ahu	FKK
Yuuko Arikawa-Cross	Daniel K. Inouye Elementary	O'ahu	LMW
Sonja Samsonas	Kauluwela Elementary School	O'ahu	KMR
Ervin Pasalo (VP)	James Campbell High School	O'ahu	CK
Flossie M. Steffany(VP)	James Campbell High School	O'ahu	CK
Derek Santos	Kalihi Uka Elementary	O'ahu	FKK
Glen Iwamoto	Waimalu Elementary	O'ahu	AMR
Daniel Larkin	Kalihi Waena Elementary	O'ahu	FKK
Shannon Goo	Hahaione Elementary	O'ahu	FKK
Donna Lindsey	Kahuku High and Intermediate	O'ahu	CK

Bryan Gusman	Noelani Elementary School	O'ahu	KMR
Mavis Tasaka	Dole Middle School	O'ahu	FKK
Randall Miura	Leihoku Elementary	O'ahu	NW
Sean Wong	Roosevelt High School	O'ahu	KMR
Suzie Lee	Ma'ili Elementary	O'ahu	NW
Laura Ahn	Niu Valley Middle School	O'ahu	FKK
Kim Sanders	Ewa Makai Middle School	O'ahu	CK
Mitchell Otani	Kalani High School	O'ahu	FKK
Gary Yasui	Holomua Elementary Schoo	O'ahu	CK
Eliza Elkington	Sunset Beach Elementary School	O'ahu	CK
Wayne Guevara	Moanalua Middle School	O'ahu	AMR
Varissa Pata	Waialua Elementary School	O'ahu	LMW
Pua McElhaney	Enchanted Lake Elementary School	O'ahu	KK
Todd Fujimori	Honouliuli Middle School	O'ahu	CK
Christopher D. Bonilla	Ilima Intermediate	O'ahu	CK
Duwayne Abe	Salt Lake El.	O'ahu	AMR
Stacey Oshio	Kailua High School	O'ahu	KK
Ernest Muh	Helemano Elementary School	O'ahu	LMW
Richard Fajardo	Kapolei Middle School	O'ahu	CK
Wesley Shinkawa	Kapolei High School	O'ahu	CK
Alisa Bender	Aiea Intermediate School	O'ahu	AMR
Jason Nakamoto	Leilehua High School	O'ahu	LMW
Malaea Wetzel	Hale'iwa Elementary School	O'ahu	LMW
Patrick Wetzel	Hickam Elementary School	O'ahu	AMR
Abey Qureshi	Kahuku Elementary School	O'ahu	CK
Kathy Kahikina	Benjamin Parker Elementary School	O'ahu	CK
Aaron Tominaga	Waipahu Elementary School	O'ahu	PW
Tami Marie Haili	Linapuni Elementary School	O'ahu	FKK
Michael Harano	Washington Middle School	O'ahu	KMR
Kyle Shimabukuro	Mililani Mauka Elementary	O'ahu	LMW
Jeffrey Shitaoka	Koko Head Elementary School	O'ahu	FKK
Jacqueline Ornellas	Lincoln Elementary School	O'ahu	KMR
Komarey Moss	Red Hill Elementary	O'ahu	AMR
Noel Richardson	Waimanalo Elementary & Intermediate	O'ahu	KK
Corey Barton	Pohakea Elementary	O'ahu	CK
Corey Allen	Nimitz Elementary School	O'ahu	AMR
Sheldon Konno	Wai'anae Elementary School	O'ahu	NW
Stan Tamashiro	Ewa Elementary	O'ahu	CK
Zachary Sheets	Pearl City Highlands Elementary School	O'ahu	PW
Garret Zakahi	Jefferson Elementary School	O'ahu	KMR
Garrett Arakawa	Momilani Elementary School	O'ahu	PW
Bryan Rankie	Ho'okele Elementary School	O'ahu	CK
Jennifer Luke-Payne	Ka`a`awa Elementary School	O'ahu	CK

Bryan Honda, VP	Ewa Elementary	O'ahu	CK
Nathan Maeda	Maunawili Elementary	O'ahu	KK
Meryl Matsumura	Waipahu High School	O'ahu	PW
James Sunday	Radford High School	O'ahu	AMR
Shannon Tamashiro	Pearl Harbor Elementary	O'ahu	AMR
James Aronica (VP)	Ewa Elementary School	O'ahu	CK
Bernie Tyrell	James B. Castle High School	O'ahu	CK
Elizabeth Higashi (VP)	Waipahu High School	O'ahu	PCW
Garett Yukumoto	Iliahi Elementary School	O'ahu	LMW
Ursula Kawaguchi	Wahiawa Middle School	O'ahu	LMW
Blaine Kashiwaeda (VP)	Dole Middle School	O'ahu	FKK
Lynn Kobayashi	Kuhio Elementary	O'ahu	KMR
Sandra Watanabe	Alvah Scott Elementary School	O'ahu	AMR
Larisa Gadach (VP)	Ewa Makai Middle School	O'ahu	CK
Diana Agor (VP)	Ewa Makai Middle School	O'ahu	CK
Kristin Muramoto (VP)	Dole Middle School	O'ahu	FKK
Jon Henry Lee	James Campbell High School	O'ahu	CK
Shelley Ferrara (VP)	Leilehua High School	O'ahu	LMW
Shawn Nakata (VP)	Leilehua High School	O'ahu	LMW
Shane Nakamura (TA-VP)	Leilehua High School	O'ahu	LMW
Deyon Nagato (VP)	Leilehua High School	O'ahu	LMW
Nolan Tokuda (AD)	Leilehua High School	O'ahu	LMW
Chad Matsuda	Webbing Elementary	O'ahu	AMR
Dale Arakaki	Pauoa Elementary	O'ahu	KMR
Blaine Takeguchi	Pearl Ridge Elementary	O'ahu	AMR
Amy Martinson	Highlands Intermediate School	O'ahu	PW
Kel Hirohata (VP)	Waipahu High School	O'ahu	PW
Gary Chun (VP)	Waipahu High School	O'ahu	PW
Matthew Mitsuyuki (VP)	Waipahu High School	O'ahu	PW
Lorelei Aiwohi	Kalakaua Middle School	O'ahu	FKK
Daryl Agena (VP)	Waipahu High School	O'ahu	PW
Alan Lee	Liholiho Elementary School	O'ahu	FKK
Cindy Yun-Kim	Kaahumanu Elementary	O'ahu	KMR
Michael Davis (VP)	Dole Middle School	O'ahu	FKK
Michael Jose	Shafter Elementary School	O'ahu	AMR
Sheldon Oshio	Waikele Elementary School	O'ahu	PW
Barry McCorkell (VP)	James Campbell High School	O'ahu	CK
Tim Hosoda	Ali'iolani Elementary School	O'ahu	KMR
Ned Uemae	Nu'uuanu Elementary School	O'ahu	KMR
Michelle DeBusca	Ala Wai Elementary School	O'ahu	KMR
Joyce Yang	Holomua Elementary School	O'ahu	CK
Justin S. N. Mew	Kaiser High	O'ahu	FKK
Dana Takahara-Dias (VP)	Kaiser High	O'ahu	FKK

Michael Viernes (VP)	Kaiser High	O'ahu	FKK
Andrew Szkotak (VP)	Kaiser High	O'ahu	FKK
Nelson Chee (AD)	Kaiser High	O'ahu	FKK
Brian Fukuda	Aliamanu Elementary	O'ahu	AMR
Marc Kawahara	Kalihi Kai Elementary	O'ahu	FKK
Jenni Uchida	Kalihi Kai Elementary	O'ahu	FKK
Sandra Yoshimi	Aliamanu Elementary	O'ahu	AMR
Cherilyn Inouye	Ka'elepulu Elementary	O'ahu	KK
Alexandra Obra	Waiāhole Elementary School	O'ahu	CK
Kau'i Tanaka	Keolu Elementary School	O'ahu	KK
Joseph Passantino	Ke'elikolani Middle School	O'ahu	KMR

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 12:25:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cynthia Bartlett	Hawaii Autism Foundation	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

**Strongly oppose Bill 2125**

**HB 2125 HD1 on the surface is written to seem like a bill to support our Department of Education from harassment. It is instead a bill written to harass and threaten parents who in good faith exercise their right to communicate with the DOE, to demand curriculum transparency and to interact in good faith with the schools.**

**In the case of autism and special needs children, parents are very involved with the D.O.E. and meet with them throughout the year.**

**Parents feel that Bill 2125 is a threat to their child and family. Any unwanted communication with the D.O.E. can be labeled as threatening, or harassing and both jail time and fines can be held over their heads.**

**Even due process could be interpreted as harassing the DOE. Parents have the right to have their children educated in an inclusive, safe environment without adding more ideological divisions. Safety includes safety for the family when interacting with the D.O.E.**

**When the Parents of Hawaii look at the new curriculum of Pono 2 (HB 1697) and the extreme sexual indoctrination of both the teacher trainings and in the classroom trainings and new curriculum they are shocked. Parents cannot be threatened and blocked. Parents have the right to curriculum transparency and transparency of what gender health classes are and social emotional learning (SEL) Any block from Teachers Unions or the Department of Education is not acceptable.**

**This Bill 2125 is anti family. Family has a right to be part of their child's education and of any due process.**





**HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**  
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

**RANDY PERREIRA**, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 24, 2022

H.B. 2125, H.D. 1 — RELATING TO OFFICIAL SCHOOL BUSINESS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the intent of H.B. 2125, H.D. 1 which creates a misdemeanor for disrupting or interfering with the administration or functions of any school, school administration office, or school board.

In a memorandum issued by Attorney General Merrick Garland in October 2021, he wrote, “Threats against public servants are not only illegal, they run counter to our nation’s core values. Those who dedicate their time and energy to ensuring that our children receive a proper education in a safe environment deserve to be able to do their work without fear for their safety.” The Attorney General issued his memo in response to the increase in harassment, intimidation, and threats of violence against school employees nationwide. Our schools in Hawaii are not immune to these problems.

Every school year, we are informed by our members of threats made directly at them or witnessed by them in the course of their employment and within the scope of their duties and responsibilities. These threats occur in school offices, at meetings, over the phone, via email, and more recently, through social media posts and comments. We strongly support any efforts to increase protection for our educational workers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 2125, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira  
Executive Director

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 12:44:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Julianne King	Hawaii Autism Foundation	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

House of Representatives 31 Legislative session

State of Hawaii

Feb. 23, 2022

regarding HB 2125 H.D. 1

Aloha Chair and committee members,

I strongly oppose HB2125. Thank you for hearing my testimony.

I am a mamabear. My son who has autism is now aging out of school but we have always been very involved with advocating for his education since he was 3 years old. I have prided myself in being a good and fair team member while advocating during an iep or team meeting or just in discussions with his teachers or the many wonderful people who have worked with my son over the years.

But I have experienced difficult years and moments when either a teacher has dropped the ball or an educational worker has not done their job in protecting my son and had put him at risk.

The worst incident was when he was 14 and he was molested in the men's changing room at the Kailua rec center pool. Months before that happened, he had told me he was afraid of the man in the bathroom. I immediately alerted the team and we had a meeting and decided he would only go into single stall rest rooms. Sadly, the skills trainer did not follow the rules and let him back into the public changing rooms. Beau let us know he was molested that day. I was so shocked, scared and beside myself with grief but we forgave the woman. But months later I found out she

had also stopped taking data and we had an argument about that in the hallway at school. It wasn't a loud argument but I let her know that wasn't ok and she stormed off and quit the team. If HB 2125 passes, that scenario could have been much different. I could have been charged with a misdemeanor, had to have gone to court and either pay a fine or go to jail for up to a year.

Do you realize what would happen to my son if I wasn't there for him? Or what could happen to countless children whose mamabears like me advocate for their children but someone who works with them whether a teacher, rbt or aid isn't a team player who treats people with respect and honesty decides to press charges?

This is an destructive bill. Please do not pass this bill.

Aloha

Julianne King

President Hawaii Autism Foundation

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 9:01:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Melodee Haole	K.E.L.I.I. FOUNDATION	Oppose	No

Comments:

I OPPOSE HB2125 HD1 BILL.

I am the founder of the K.E.L.I.I. FOUNDATION, and a mother of a Severe Autistic young adult, I started this non profit when my son Kelii was aging out of school due to the lack of services for kids like my son. I had to advocate and take the DOE to due process 4 times, and there were times during the IEP meeting and court hearing it would be very heated and emotional between the DOE, my husband and I, the DOE at times would have between 10-15 people attending the meetings to intimidid the us, this was 12 years ago.

Ive been at recent IEP meeting as an advocate and it is worst now.

We the parents advocate for our children on a daily bases to help them have a better quality of life, and hopefully to be independent when they are young adults. please dont take away our rights to advocate for our special needs children.

thank you Melodee Haole

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 11:17:25 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Melissa Johnson	Parent / ALOHAS support group Founder	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Lawmakers,

I am a parent of a special-needs child and I'm also the founder of a support group for parents Of children with special needs. While we can appreciate the HDOE's Point of view for pursuing This law to be enacted, we are extremely concerned that the ambiguity of this act would lead to misuse and overreach of the school district through intimidation to silence parents who are trying to advocate for their special child's needs.

In the bill terminology such as "annoy" Is used as language to determine if a misdemeanor would be assigned. This is a dangerous slippery slope because it's not clearly defined and is left to the interpretation of the administrator or the teacher who would want to pursue these measures. As parents of special needs children we already have a very extremely hard time having our voices heard and to be considered equal team members on the IEP team. To the extent of which we are considered equal team members varies greatly from school to school and administrator to administrator, and sadly often times school policies and laws are used inappropriately as a barrier to prevent parents from acting in this role, rather than their intended initial purposes.

While we greatly appreciate The need for our teachers And administrators to be able to do their job free of true harassment, the way this bill is written would just give way too much unilateral power to an organization that already has many tools at their disposal to address this issue. For that reason I (and many of the parents in the support group) Officially go on record as strongly opposing this bill And request that you be a voice for our Keiki by voting no. We feel the schools need to take more and stronger measures to build bridges and relationships with parents across the board and less of these type of incidents would occur.

Sincerely,

Melissa Johnson

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 9:43:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Susan Pcola_Davis	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

I have given a lot of thought on this bill from my last testimony.

Oppose: I do not believe the department has the authority to enforce this nor assign the offender a misdemeanor charge.

I do agree that a well thought out solution would be a better avenue to take. This committee needs to discuss the ramifications of charging a school community member with a misdemeanor.

I think this is a slippery slope that we do not want to go down. This is an easy out rather than finding a solution.

If HPD is called I believe they could de-escalate the situation. If not, other measures should be taken.

DOE is not law enforcement.

DOE is not trained for this type of circumstance.

Call HPD and let them handle it, case by case.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 10:48:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Mary Dudoit	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a mother I'm deeply troubled at the suggestion that concerned parents who are involved in their child's education can be targeted as a criminal for advocating for their child in board meeting, parent teacher conferences, or when bringing up concerns with their child's principal. If any parent's actions are deemed by the educator(s) to be intentionally "annoying", or "alarming", then a parent will be charged with a misdemeanor--an offense which carries a maximum sentence of one year's jail time and a fine up to \$2,000? This is preposterous! What parent will risk advocating for their children while educators claims can put them behind bars?

As a Hawaii State educator, I find this bill detracts from any efforts towards partnership between school and home. Parents are our students first teachers. They are vital partners in helping our keiki thrive in our schools, and also in our wider community. This act of aggression towards parents/guardians does little or nothing to support the education of our children. What this bill proposes is frightening for students' families and can create toxic learning environments and communities. Our students will be the first to feel the effects of such volatile situations.

I strongly oppose HB2125! This bill, if passed, will cause a mass exodus from the public school system in Hawaii and a deep divide between students' families and their schools. How detrimental would be to the overall health and well-being of our students. How can we teach respect while leaders blatantly disrespect the authority of the parent. How dare any government agency seek to threaten the family system, especially in Hawai'i--a place where family is greatly valued by so many. This bill is a disgrace. Please think of our keiki.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 11:09:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Scott Smart	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Hawaii's criminal code provides adequate means to address the concerns expressed in this bill. It is evident that the intent of this bill is to chill speech from parents and concerned citizens. Since the elimination of an elected school board, there are limited ways in which the public can be heard. I can understand why the DoE and its employees would prefer to operate in a bubble; but that is not the way a democracy works. DoE employees may not like what citizens have to say, but they need to hear it, even if they feel "annoyed" or "alarmed".



**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 11:45:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Luis Ma	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

That bill give government have overpower parents control over them own children. Provide a future path for government take children in aways from parents just because parent dont agree about intoxication lecture materials school.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 8:51:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Christine Wolcott	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Oppose: I do not believe the department has the authority to enforce this nor assign the offender a misdemeanor charge.

You can hire security personnel if you feel this is a problem.

You were given millions in ESSR funds for this purpose!

Why do we need this legislation? How many occurrences have occurred? We have been told 1, who has since quit. Really we need legislation to charge parents for one person???

DOE is not part of the law enforcement force. Our Hawaii government needs to start representing we the people rather than focusing on power and heavy handed punishments, I am disappointed in how ridiculous and time consuming this is Scott Saiki!

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 8:56:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Dawn Poiani	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Oppose HB2125 HD1

While I agree that there is a line that parents can cross with schools, this bill is so broad that a teacher could report a parent just because they annoy them. This is not a crime to advocate for your child or have issue with something at school. This bill squashes the parents ability to advocate for their child. If a parent crosses a line of harassment or threatening the law fully supports restraining orders or pressing charges. This bill gives too much power to restrict parent advocacy.

Let me give you an example of something that happened in my sons school. My son was sitting outside class during break eating snacks with some friends. A teacher walks up and asks the kids what they were doing. Kids said they were snacking and on break between class. One of the kids said something a little snarky to the teacher and the teacher got angry. Teacher told the student that she "belongs on a pole." Several parents, especially this one students parents, were super angry at such an inappropriate comment from a teacher. The parents called and emailed the school and were very direct about it. They demanded this teacher not have any more contact with students. If any of these parents behaved with too much anger they could be fined for harassment with this bill. Who is wrong in this situation if a parent over reacts? Life is sticky.

I disagree with this bill because life is sticky and it is way too broad. Any parent that acts in a way that is over the top the law can handle.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 9:04:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Vickie Parker Kam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Committee members,

I am writing in support of HB2125 HD1. Our schools deserve to be safe places to work, learn, and support community. Having protocols in place to support schools personnel, administration and BOE while doing the work of planning, organizing, and executing educational directives is critical to ensure our students are offered a safe environment conducive to learning.

Mahalo for hearing my testimony. Please support HB2125 HD1.

Vickie Kam

HIDOE Educator

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 10:00:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Masina S.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

As a former employee of DOE and a private school, I OPPOSE HB2125. While I fully support the protection of educational institutions and their staff, this bill does not define what is considered "intent to harass, annoy, or alarm". This leaves it up to misinterpretation from an individual's emotional tolerance, personal opinion, and personal feelings. As a result, definitions could go from a parent provoking or acting out violence to a parent just being "irritating" for complaining.

During my years of employment, I have experienced a parent trying to kick in doors to physically harm staff. I have experienced verbal threats from the public. These types of harassment should definitely have legal action taken. This should also include staff/institutions because I have seen my share of staff being just as aggressive towards parents.

"Intent to harass, annoy or alarm". These terms are too broad and could result in parents being charged with misdemeanors for minor inconveniences. My experiences have taught me to choose my battles based on the level of harassment. Annoyances were just that, annoyances. If a concern can be addressed with both parties being civil, then there wasn't and shouldn't be any further issues.

If this bill better defined "intent to harass, annoy, or alarm" so that it did not infringe on a person's Constitutional rights, or target parents for just being "annoying" then I would support it. There has to be a high level of threat to validate legal action.

Mahalo,

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 10:18:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Rita Wong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I absolutely oppose this bill!!

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 10:40:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Lisa Kerman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB2125 HD1

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 11:05:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Alexandra Love	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am writing to oppose this measure. As a parent of public school students, I deserve to have a say in the goings on of the school as it directly affects my child. Unfortunately, the school administrators and even those in higher-up positions in the DOE have often been unresponsive to my professional requests for communication. If the DOE is not accountable to respond to parents, then how are we supposed to make our voices heard? My understanding is that the BOE is also unwilling to hear from parents. How is harassment defined? If I send an email requesting correspondence with the school principal and he doesn't respond, weeks later, I follow up requesting a response and he continues to ignore me, then I send another email about another topic and get no response, am I harassing him when I go on campus to ask to speak with him in person? How about instead of holding parents accountable and making them fearful of advocating for their children, you hold the administrators accountable for conducting themselves and their schools in such a way as to cause parents to be so frustrated with the school system? Will there be any accountability for those who are forcing children to wear masks all day indoors and outdoors in the absence of any scientific evidence for their efficacy and in the presence of evidence for the harms they cause in psychosocial development and learning? Instead of trying to punish caring parents for wanting to be involved in their children's lives, you focus on the administrators who are failing children and their families.



**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 11:15:24 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Carolina Carreira	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill. The harassment of any person is unacceptable, however, that is why we have law enforcement officers. This bill is not only unnecessary but is a slippery slope. It is far too vague and leaves far too much open to interpretation and subjectivity. If anyone is being harassed, especially in a school setting then law enforcement should be called as they have CLEAR SET GUIDELINES on enforcing the law already in place and whose role protect and serve those in need.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 11:16:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Don King	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 2125 and urge you to vote against it. As this bill is written it could easily be abused by school personnel who disagree with parents about what is best for their children's welfare and education. It will disempower parents from peacefully advocating for their children. A forceful advocate could now arbitrarily be labeled as abusive by the school and arrested. This is not the path to a cooperative and positive parent school relationship, but the opposite. Parental involvement is the most reliable metric for students educational success. It should be encouraged. In this process the school is not automatically right, and in any issue there is disagreement on there should be two way dialog not reached by giving schools authoritarian power over parents.

Is this bill necessary? If someone is truly abusive and threatening aren't there already laws in place to deal with that? I am concerned that this will disempower parents who may have a disagreement with their school. Please vote against this bill.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 11:30:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Renee Dieperink	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I vehemently **OPPOSE HB2125 HD1!!!!**

This bill aims to shut the mouths of parents who express concerns about what school districts are doing (e.g. continuing to mask our keiki). If a parent sends EVIDENCE (e.g. numerous scientific, peer reviewed articles that masks don't hold back a virus) via email to a principal or teacher, and sends some more later on, this could be construed as "annoying" or "alarming" the educational worker. In this bill you propose that a person who annoys or alarms an educational worker can be charged with a misdemeanor. That's horrible! I am a teacher myself and of course I don't want to be harrassed by anyone, but to silence parents' voices is not the way to go. Please vote NO!

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 12:19:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Kenneth Ordenstein	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

"...Annoy...?"

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 12:27:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Erin Austin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Parents need to be able to advocate for their children and this bill further erodes parental rights. If a parent is out of hand there are laws in place to handle that, but if a parent questions or objects to something this bill has the potential to criminalize that. This is more government over reach.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 12:31:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Rikki Kaia	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a parent, it is not outside of my authority to question decisions that directly effect my child. This bill undermines my ability to question the school regarding serious concerns and gives the school administration the ability to falsely accuse legitimate concerns of a parent and turn the incident into a harrassment case. This bill does not clearly define what harrassment is and therefore any questioning can be viewed as harrassment. This will very much impact the parents negatively not allowing them to voice real concerns without being labeled and prosecuted unjustly. It is the school administrations job to hear the concerns and work with the community to find solutions. this bill could impact that process in a negative way. I am in opposition of this bill.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 12:50:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Miray Mongoen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Legislation,

As an educator, I feel it is very important that families and teachers collaborate together for the success of the students. If this bill is passed, it may harm communication between the families and the educators/ school board and this could be devastating to the students' growth. Both sides need to collaborate together for the child to have a bright and successful future. Communicating and collaborating together, may not always be easy, but as 21st-century learners, we must learn to hear each other and problem-solve together. Please oppose the HB2125 bill.

Thank you for your time,

Miray Mongeon

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 12:54:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Kealohi Hanohano	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

It is my right as a parent to have a say in my child's education. Knowing what's being taught and whats going on while in school.



**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:03:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Wailani Stoner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:07:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Sharee Orr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Parents have the right to have a say in their children's education. The state nor the DOE do not own children.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:10:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Jacob Medina	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it is too broad and not specific enough. What actions qualify as "annoying" or "alarming" to a school worker? It creates too much opportunity for a school worker to discriminate against families that they may not like or for children that they may have problems with. School workers do not need this kind of blanket immunity that is so open to interpretation. Is a sneeze annoying or disruptive? How is alarming a school worker defined? Speaking too loudly? Startling them? This also removes parents ability to challenge any legitimate concerns or misconduct that may be happening in the classroom or elsewhere. I especially worry about parents who have children with special needs. Many of these children can not communicate effectively and need their parents to ask questions of these service providers. Service providers would be given the ability to label these questions annoying in order to avoid answering them. I think this is a terrible bill that creates too much opportunity for bad actors to use as an excuse for misconduct.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:16:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Alan Koons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose HB2125. This is a ridiculous bill and leaves a very vague and subjective set of rules for what might be considered harassment or an annoyance to teachers or staff. Parents should have every right to ensure what and how their kids are being taught by their teachers is up to par and safe for those kids. This is just taking away freedom of speech to voice concerns or teacher overreach when it comes to what they say or show to students. We've seen so much evidence over the last few years of teachers overstepping their boundaries as a teacher in terms of what they teach and how they treat our children. Especially if those same children want to express free thought outside of what is deemed to be "acceptable. Kill this bill for the safety of our kids and for the freedom of speech and knowing what our kids are being taught. Although I absolutely respect teachers and do not have a problem with the vast majority of what and how they teach, teachers these days need to be held accountable now more than ever with the person opinions and views they preach to our most vulnerable.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:22:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Linda Elento	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha, This measure interferes with an individual's civil rights, including individuals with disabilities who may have communication deficits or behavior needs due to a disability.

Hawaii and our counties do not need this subjective law to deter any form of real or perceived harrassment. The result will be a contentious environment if students, parents or other individuals are considered criminals and must defend themselves against employees who may depend on a state to protect them through the court system.

A school system however can improve its communication with students and families and the public and give them the time of day, and clear procedures policies.

I was in shock to witness an elementary school student sit quietly in my child's public school's admin office until the police arrived and arrested her and took her to the police station. I listened to the conversation between school personnel and the police. The school wouldn't allow the student to remain in office while the parent was on his/her way to pick up their student.

I have also heard from the parent who received a TRO for attempting to discuss matters regarding his/her child. The school can open the door to communication and fairly investigate administratively or through the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission, not make an accusation of harrassment any form of crime.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony asking the committee defer HB2125 HD1.



**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:26:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Natasha Inaba	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill as we as parents have the right to make the best decisions for our children in "THEIR" best interest!!! And as parents knowing our own children BEST, WE would do so!! We also have the freedom of speech which this bill is trying to cancel!! So I VERY STRONGLY OPPOSE HB2125. Thank you!

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:52:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Samantha Canon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill based on the fact that it basically makes parents out to be criminals by trying to charge them with a misdemeanor if they choose to question anything going on within the school system. The exact verbiage states that it "Creates a misdemeanor of harrassment of an educational worker for disrupting or interfering with the administration or functions of any school, school administration office or school board". Please define harrassment. Could this potentially qualify if parents annoy school staff they could be put in jail? Parents should have every and all opportunity to question anything taking place within the public school system and every opportunity to be fully involved. This is part of the reason our schools are failing is because enough parents are NOT involved. Our tax dollars pay for the school system. Parents should not be criminalized by asking questions and being involved in their children's upbringing even if it makes a school staff member uncomfortable sometimes.



**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:55:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Kaytlen Kort	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I opposed HB 2125 because I strongly believe that parents have the right to verbally express their opinions to any educational system official, in regards to absolutely anything remotely close or directed to their children. Especially when it comes to COVID-19 measures parents should always have the last say and always be the one to make the final decision pertaining to their child or children.

thank you

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:57:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Pancho Sullivan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am writing to oppose HB2125. This bill attempts to limit parental input. The DOE in Hawaii is ranked 40th in the nation. It has been delivering a low level quality of education for many years. Parents have the right to provide input and it is on the DOE and teachers to accept criticism. Our tax dollars pay for public education and therefore parents should have a right to have input into the curriculum that is being taught. I strongly oppose HB2125. Improve the quality of your job performance and you should have nothing to worry about. Mahalo for your time.

Regards

Pancho

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 2:01:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Nathan Patry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I adamantly oppose this bill. I oppose as a parent, as a local teacher, and as a member of our community. Each of these deserve a voice and have a right to discuss the education of our upcoming generations without risk of law enforcement being involved or invoked to stifle input.

Nathan Patry

Lahaina, HI

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 2:05:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Cris Gibbons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As someone who has worked in the public school system, and who has also obtained an Elementary teaching degree here, I can tell you this bill is not only severely detrimental to a parent's first amendment rights to advocate for their children's education, but it also is an abuse of legislative power to criminalize us tax paying citizens who pay into creating these schools and who should rightly have a say in what their child is learning and how they're learning. A parent is a child's most strongest and most important advocate. Their opinions and voices should never be hindered. There is already existing adequate coverage in the HRS that already gives protection against harassment and this vaguely written bill just leaves the door open for any DOE worker to bring unnecessary criminal charges against parents.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 2:16:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Malia Daraban	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I deeply oppose this Bill. As a parent and a community stakeholder, this negates parents rights to voice their opinion or advocate on our/their child's behavior. This Bill is open for misuse by department of education. Parents voices matter, as we are the experts of our children.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 2:20:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Bobbiejean Peters	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Our Heavenly Father entrusted my kids to ME, "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it" Proverbs 22:6

It is me and my immediate Ohana and above all God that will be raising, guiding and instilling Gods ways for my children.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 2:31:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Mitch Johnson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a parent of a child with disabilities, I feel that this bill will negatively impact parents and parent advocates for students with disabilities. I worry that the increased punishment, as well as creating a specific group of aggrieved persons creates a fear-based effect for student/parent advocates throughout Hawaii's school system. If the statute is deemed necessary, so to is it necessary to add the wording to the effect: "This section is not to be used against, and is not intended to dissuade, legitimate and reasonable advocacy on behalf of parents and students". I fear that educators will use this bill as an excuse to silence the parents and advocates that need to continuously speak up for their students that cannot do so for themselves. Again, I feel that this bill will negatively impact a minority group that has already been suppressed in the education system. I understand that this bill is intended to support educators, but I also worry that by doing so it will hurt families that have students with a disability.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 2:40:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Janean Abbott	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this.



**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 2:54:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Uluwehi Malama	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am opposing this bill! It is my right to advocate for my children!

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 2:55:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Lois Brown	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I wholeheartedly oppose this bill. It is absolutely ridiculous to criminalize parents for being an advocate should the child ever need one. In this day and age, it is paramount that the parents be as involved as they possibly can. Leaving parents out of educational matters is absolutely unheard of Please vote "no" on this hill.

Mahalo

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 2:58:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Carlen Koons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This takes away parental rights.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 3:04:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Sheila Gage	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill as Hawaii already has in place harassment laws that cover all citizens, DOE or not. If any feels harassed they already have the right to press charges. Parents have the right to question any DOE decisions that pertain to the education of their children. This law would prevent parents from voicing their opinions, whereby calling those opinions harassment, of which it is not. The law is not needed. I've had 11 children go through the education system, and now have 24 grandchildren going through school. My testimony covers all of them as we are all opposed to this law. The DOE must be held accountable to the education of our children in all forms and fashions. I will be happy to provide all their names if need be.

Thank you,

Sheila Gage

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 3:07:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Cheryl Harden	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill because parents have the right to voice their opinions and to attempt to make changes without fear of "annoying" the school staff members and volunteers. The definition of "harassment" needs to be amended to only include serious offenses and not simple acts of annoyance. An administrator could easily become "annoyed" by a daily email from a parent, or multiple phone calls. If they are not being threatened, harmed, or actually harassed, the changes being made in this bill will not protect parents of the children, but only cause harm.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 3:37:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Anuhe Maeda	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 4:15:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Randy West	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 4:31:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Laurie West	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I **strongly oppose** this bill which potentially conflicts with our civil liberties of free speech and assembly. We already have laws against assault and battery which could be invoked in case of actual threats against others when warranted. Parents must not be intimidated by such a law which puts a chill on free speech when advocating on behalf of their children against what they may perceive as egregious policies. I cannot believe that such bills actually make it this far in the legislative process without more resistance by our representatives. Shaking my head in disappointment at the direction Hawai'i's public officials have taken us in over the past years. Having to perpetually demand from this government respect for our basic civil liberties and the right to informed consent is mentally and physically tiresome...How about term limits?



**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 4:44:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Tenaya Calhoun	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

We DO NOT support turning concerned parents into terrorists or felons. As parents we have FULL and GOD GIVEN RIGHTS to determine what are children are being taught, by whom they are taught, and to speak up and speak out against unjust activities in our schools. What will you do when all children are homeschooled? You will not have a school system. Our public schools have a school board made up of parents to monitor the processes and events of our schools. As a collective, we encourage growth, support, love, and giving back to our communities. This bill being introduced is aimed to limit parents, not help. If teachers/schools are threatened by parents, perhaps they are doing something wrong as educators. IF we as parents do not like something, we must speak up for those that do not have a voice. Teachers should be concerned with the development of the student, clear communication is necessary. Parents should not be passed over at the expense of the teacher. We will pull our children from these systems if the state OVERREACHES by passing these bills.

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 4:54:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Paul Asuncion	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

My child is autistic and if you haven't been educated about it, every child on the "spectrum" require very different needs. In saying so, my wife and I have/are/will always be our child's best advocates because we know him best. For the most part, his special education teachers and team have been very cooperative in putting together his IEP but, in the case that something is not being done in a fashion where we believe PLEP and other laws are involved, we need to speak up on behalf of our child. 100% of the time, we've had meetings conducted in a respectful and diplomatic matter. We oppose this bill because it will restrict us from having input on our child's education due to the "fear" of jail time, \$1,000+ fine, or other damages. WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOICE OUR OPINIONS AND CONCERNS ABOUT/FOR OUR SON'S EDUCATION!

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 5:01:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Roniza Trinidad	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I wholeheartedly oppose this bill. It is ridiculous to criminalize parents for being an advocate should the child ever need one. In this day and age, it is paramount that the parents be as involved as they possibly can. Leaving parents out of educational matters is absolutely unheard of. Please vote "no" on this bill.

Mahalo,

Roniza Trinidad

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 5:12:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
palani white	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose HB2125. Thank you!

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 5:15:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Laura Kahiapo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it violates our constitutional rights.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 5:32:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Pearl Dunn	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 5:48:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Kapua Medeiros	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee members,

I am Opposed to HB2125.

Although I am a very big Supporter of All Educators and Administrators, I do not feel that HB2125 is the way to create an Environment of Solutions and Progress.

There are already laws in place that HPD can enforce whenever an individual fails to control their Passion and emotional frustrations.

I see nothing Good coming from Persecuting and Prosecuting those in our Communities that obviously care about our keiki. I myself have faced the same kind of frustrations when trying to find Justice and Equality for our Hawaiian Immersion Students in the past.

If this law was in place then I may have been prosecuted for merely Not taking a No Can for an Answer.

I believe that any and all situations can be talked through and solved by using Aloha and Respect for All involved.

I implore you to find a better Solutions to this issue that does deserve a remedy.

Me ke Aloha nui,

Kapua Medeiros

Waimānalo Raised Resident

And

Waimānalo Neighborhood Board #32 member

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 6:17:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a mother of public school children, I strongly OPPOSE this bill be passed to law. This bill infringes on my constitutional and parental rights to speak out against a tax paid position in government. DOE works for we the people of Hawaii and can properly call the police if feel physically threatened. A misdemeanor for speech is a far to serious consequence for a difference of opinion. Stop trying to cancel our voices. This type of legislation is a communist act against the people of Hawaii who utilize public education. Please do NOT support this bill.



**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 6:32:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
mellissa nohealani bennett	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Mellissa Nohealani Bennett, I am a 25 year old single mother, born and raised in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii.

Thank you for taking the time read my opposing to bill **HB2125**. I believe with everything going on in the world we as parents should have the right to disrupt class for the safety of our children if we feel there is something that is being done or taught to our child during the time that they are in school.

I personally experienced **neglect** from my 7th grade teacher in a public school here in Hawaii, due to religious beliefs and not wanting to participate with the teaching of witchcraft & reading of certain genered books. I was looked down upon, and harrassed for my beliefs which has cause my stance as a parent to be there for my child whenever we feel as if what we are being taught does not coincide with our beliefs that we are taught in our own households.

I oppose of this bill to charge us for misdemeanor as a concerend parent that is involved and sees the danger in this as many things have impacted me in the educational system, and failure to notify my parents when suffering personal injury.

Kind regards,

Mellissa Nohealani Bennett

808-796-0336

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 6:44:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Sheryl Cunningham	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

This bill violates our rights as advocates for our special needs kids. I oppose this bill. I feel this is allowing the DOE to strong arm us parents and silence our concerns and feelings. We need to be able to express ourselves on behalf of our children and make sure that their civil rights are being taken care of and that they are receiving the appropriate education that they are entitled too,

Sheryl Cunningham

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 6:52:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lindsay Chambers	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

While this bill may seem like a good start to protect employees who are harassed through the course of their employment with the Department of Education (DOE), it does not resolve the fact that the Department lacks consistent safety procedures to address these situations.

The bill lacks the following details and leaves out the DOE's role and responsibility in protecting its employees.

- **The bill does not clearly define “harassment,” “annoy” or “alarm.”** In my experience as a former DOE employee who was harassed solely because of my employment with the Department, I was told that what I experienced was not harassment. Instead, I was told that my harasser was exercising his first amendment rights. The Department held that position even after the courts had decided otherwise and granted a permanent restraining order against my harasser.
- **The bill also fails to specify whose responsibility it is to call law enforcement in the event that a DOE employee is harassed at work, or who is responsible for following up with law enforcement.** Is this the responsibility of the victim or the Department? If it's the victim, what type of support is the Department responsible for as the employer?
- **The bill should also require the Department to create Standard Operating Procedures for responding to situations in which an employee is harassed as a result of their employment.** Through my experience and self advocating, I found the Department's response varies from school to school and from complex to state levels. In some situations, a safety plan is given to an employee. In others, nothing is done even if the harassment is incredibly severe. Employee safety and wellbeing should not be dependent upon whether a harassed employee is lucky enough to be working for a leader who cares.
- **While a misdemeanor is a start, it is not strong enough to deter individuals who are repeat offenders. The bill needs to include language to escalate penalties for serial harassers who do not respond to initial criminal penalties.** The bill should also include a requirement for DOE and law enforcement agencies to establish a system to track and monitor these cases to identify repeat offenders. In my situation, the individual who harassed me has multiple TROs against him, many of which are DOE employees. There are other victims who have reached out to me; however, there is no centralized system to monitor repeat offenders and the impact of their harassment among multiple employees.

- **Lastly, if a situation escalates and legal counsel is needed, the bill should clearly state whose responsibility it is to provide this support.** If harassment occurs within the course of someone's employment with the DOE, it seems only right that the Department is responsible to provide protection and legal guidance. I was instructed by the Department to file for a TRO when members of my team were being threatened. After following their instructions, I was told that I would not receive support from the DOE and/or the AG's office. Not only was this not sound legal advice (my first TRO application was denied because the person's threats were against my team and not me directly at that time), this action made me and my family the target of this harasser. Over the course of a year, my family and I were repeatedly threatened and did not receive support from the Department. The harassment ended up being so severe that I used my own resources to file for a TRO, which was granted in January 2019.

The lack of clarity in this bill gives the Department too much leeway to once again place the burden on victims - whether it's proving what they are experiencing is truly harassment to making them follow up with law enforcement and the courts to advocate on their own behalf.

In one of the threats, I was told by my harasser that "when this is all said and done you will be begging on the side of the street because you will be terminated." The AG and DOE believe that this falls under the harasser's first amendment rights.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 6:53:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Amber Tranetzki	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Who defines what is harassment? If expressing our concerns, voices, differences of beliefs is not voiced someone can label that as harassment? I do not think so. This bill is not giving equal opportunity to be heard and voice our concerns to any staff. Our tax dollars pay for the public school education and parents have the right to let their voices be heard. This bill again like many others introduced is against the right of freedom of speech.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 7:16:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Lahela Twist	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Parents need to be involved in their children's school life.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 7:18:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Kristina	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill HB2125 because I am responsible to speak up for MY child and when I do so I should be able to with out the being arrested !! This is MY child MY responsibility and MY right to speak up when I need to !!!

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 8:04:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Joann Salakielu	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Oppose this bill. How do you identify harassment? If you passionately disagree with an educational official is that harassment?



**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 8:05:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Nani Kahinu	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Misdemeanor for harrasment is unreasonable. it seeks to strip parental authority over their children's education.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 8:15:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Mahela Punley	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

First I am distress that a bill of such would be created, I have children who attend public school and since this pandemic has started only received harassment and discrimination on campus. This mask mandate has caused emotional and psychological damage to my children and affected their ability to focus academically. With that being said....

In a time where parents have expressed genuine frustrations over curriculum and CoVID-19 policies, this bill would silence concerns and embolden the already unaccountable public education administration. We need more accountability not less.

This is yet another law addressing problems the government caused. If there was open debate and transparency regarding the policies and mandates in schools then parents wouldn't feel the need to address workers. When the people have no outlet they will make one where they can. Now if parents annoy the schools by disagreeing with policies being forced upon them they could be arrested.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 8:17:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Carey Vierra	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. It is way too vague and has the potential to harm the child and family by making it a misdemeanor to "annoy, or alarm an educational worker." I can't believe our legislature would even entertain such language. As a parent of a child in SPED, advocating for my child could be construed as annoying or alarming. And what is our recourse? As a victim of a due process violation at Kane'ohe Elementary, I continued to advocate for my child. Would calling and emailing the superintendant requesting a meeting and clarification be considered annoying or alarming? Not at first maybe, but when you receive no response for months then years, would pursuing the issue be considered annoying or alarming? Would showing up at school or administrative offices to voice your concerns and make sure no other child is treated the way yours was be considered annoying? It could be under this bill. This is pandora's box. I strongly oppose this bill.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 8:58:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Sharie Ono	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it will impede or prevent me from voicing my concerns regarding CRT or SEL being taught in schools.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 9:04:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Joseph Glenn	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I firmly oppose HB2125. The terms "harrass" and "annoy" are very vague and generic. At a time when schools should be reaching out to parents and seeking to work together in partnership, this bill furthers the divide between parents and school staff. Parents should have input on the education their child is receiving. By using the word "annoy" in this bill it allows the school staff to go after any parent that doesn't agree with their agenda. This is not good for students, parents or teacherts.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 9:08:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Melissa Iwamoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose HB2125. The language of this bill is extremely concerning--it sounds as if any a concerned parent that has questions for the adminstators or educators of their children's education and safety could be charged with a misdemeanor. The education of our keiki should be viewed as a collaboration between the schools, the parents, and the community. This bill will only help further the division that is being created to stifle this collaboration. And all of this at a incredible detriment to our keiki. This bill is not the solution to whatever unknown issue it seeks to address.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 9:19:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Hipolito Olaes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I vehemently oppose this measure/proposal. This measure reeks of Critical Race Theory. Parents should be involved in their child's education, to include being involved in interactions with the school employees, whether they be a part of the board, administration, teachers or support staff. Interaction on both sides should follow norms of civilized society, and parents have a constitutional right to be able to express their 1A freedom of speech.

I also vehemently oppose the introduction of pornographic materials as part of the curriculum. Parents have the first and foremost right to determine when to introduce their children to adult type education. It is not the pervue of the school to expose them to this. These children are minors. Parents have every right to make decisions for their minor children. Exposing them to pornographic materials with or without parents consent is akin to child/minor abuse, sexual harassment and sexual abuse.

How has our elected officials become so Godless? I'm ashamed to even have to call this out. Where has your common sense gone to? Don't you also have children of your own that you want to protect?!?

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 9:22:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Mr and Mrs John McComas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha. We strongly oppose the passing of HB 2125 as written. The vague language of this bill leaves the door open for gross misinterpretation and misuse by school officials. Using language such as "annoying" is subjective and there is no place for vagueness when addressing the strong accusations contained within this bill by the Hawaii Department of Education.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share our testimony.



**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 10:12:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Danielle Olvera	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose HB 2125 and wish to convey to you the slippery slope which you are willingly leading our school's community down. I am a mother and an aunt. My chosen career is not in the educational system. That being said, those who are and who wear the title of "educational professional" needs to be held to the highest level of accountability. Anyone who is put into a position where children are involved is not above reproach. Parents should be well informed and active in their child's education which means that the school, its education professionals, teachers, etc will be working together not against eachother for the betterment of the children. I plan to take a very active role in my son's education. Should I take a very adamant stance on a topic that I deem inappropriate or suspicious, I will explain myself and have a discussion with those in charge of my son's education. Yet, in doing this, I may been looked at as interfering and my actions looked at as potential misdeameanors. Why is that? Am I to have utter and complete trust in your system? Should I just sit back and not have many input whatsoever based on the fact that I am not a teacher or educational "person"? I dont think so and I dont think any parent or involved guardian in a chidl's life would think so either. Accountability, transparency and integrity is what the educational system needs...Not the threat of punishments for those parents who are striving to be active and present in what their children are learning and voicing their concerns and reservations.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 10:19:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Raelene Shimokawa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Taking away our parental rights to oversee & question the school, administration, & teachers on what my child is being taught is not in our children's best interest. No one has more love than a parent for their child. It should not be a crime to question the curriculum. Is this what Hawaii has fallen to? Censorship of concerned parents? We, the parents, are responsible for our keiki. Not the government or the school. Our rights as parents should not be taken away! Since when is it a crime to discuss our concerns if we feel something being taught to our children is not right? Schools should stick to teaching - math, language arts, history, science, pe, home ec, business, etc. schools should not use children as pawns & try to indoctrinate them with the government's agenda.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 10:45:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Nadezda Rego	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED HB2125.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 11:06:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Jesika H.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 11:07:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Justin Mau	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose HB2125. Parents should have a say in what their children learn and are taught in school. It is important for parents to play a major part in their children's educational development. Parents should have the right to question what their children are learning in school. Every parent has the right to choose what is appropriate for their own children. If a parent determines that they do not want their children to be exposed to a particular topic in the school setting, then it should be the parent's right to opt out. There are some topics that may cause confusion for a child and it should be up to the child's parents to decide when they are exposed to certain topics, such as sex. Because school is mandatory for children, then it is imperative that parents are given a say in what is being taught to their children in school, and parents must be kept apprised of what their children are being exposed to.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 11:13:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Antonette	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

My children in school were bullied not by students but by a vice principal. This V.principal keep on calling me 3x a week and also email me leave several messages to call her because she wants my children's work submitted 2 weeks after submitting the last one and she wants it the following day.other families in the same program said that they never get a call, voice-mail or emails from the V principal ...bottoming she wants my 7 and 9 yr old kids out of the program for.whatever reason. I took out my kids voluntarily out of the distance learning program and now homeschooling them. Told her in my email that I am a tax payer too what right does she.have to.deny a taxpayer's children to.attend school under DOE?

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 12:01:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Randy Kila	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill has satanic. How could anyone even write it, let alone justify it with a vote.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 12:14:50 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Victoria Ng	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

As a teacher and a parent, I oppose this bill. Parents should not be shunted to the side; they are their children's guardian, and do not need to co parent with the government. Parents should not be ostracized or demonized for having opinions or for opposing specific educational material.

Thank you,

Victoria Ng



**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 2:23:47 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Vernelle Oku	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this legislation which seems to criminalize a parent's right to object to how their children are being taught in school. It shouldn't be a crime to voice your objections to a teacher. This is America, not Russia.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 6:45:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Tiana Wilbur	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

This is unconstitutional and very harsh and not acceptable. This will affect many students and families that have already voiced their support in education topics and will also affect families that have religious exemptions already in place! We need to spend time making laws that actually are for the people by the people. This is against exactly that!!!

**LATE**

Aloha and Good Afternoon JHA Chair and Members,

I firmly and respectfully oppose HB 2125, Harassment of an Educational Worker; Misdemeanor.

Additionally, I strongly oppose the harassment of any individual including Educational Workers (EW) as defined in the Bill.

There are policies and procedures currently in place at the DoE and BoE to address harassing behavior such as contacting Campus Security and the Honolulu Police Department.

A misdemeanor is a serious offense. Hawaii has three main classifications of criminal offenses: felonies, misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors. Non-criminal offenses are called violations, which only carry fines, forfeitures or other civil penalties, excluding imprisonment. There are many resolution options to address matters involving conflict.

As defined in the Bill, a person commits the offense of harassment of an educational worker if, with intent to harass, annoy, or alarm an educational worker, that person disrupts or interferes with the administration or functions of any school, school administration office or school board. Who is going to adjudicate "intent" to harass, annoy, or alarm an Educational Worker? A parent or guardian may present to staff as upset, agitated, or passionate about matters concerning their child. This may be "perceived" as harassment. Providing in-service training to EW Staff on how to de-escalate a conversation and provide resolution options would be a positive approach. Reaching resolution through collaborative discussions using mediation and conflict-resolution tools is far better than entering into the legal system which is cost prohibitive to the DoE and all parties involved.

If this Bill is passed, it has the propensity to censor parents and guardians. It is concerning to me as a free American that parents and guardians will be prohibited from expressing their concerns and their right to freedom of speech for fear of being charged with a misdemeanor.

As stated in the U.S. Constitution, First Amendment, the most basic component of freedom of expression is the right of freedom of speech. The right to freedom of speech allows individuals to express themselves without interference or constraint by the government. The Supreme Court requires the government to provide substantial justification for the interference with the right of free speech where it attempts to regulate the content of the speech.

As a trained Mediator and Licensed Social Worker, I am confident that there are options to managing conflict through mediation with a goal of resolution. Charging someone with a misdemeanor has serious consequences impacting the students, families, the education system, and the legal system.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,  
Mrs. Jamie Detwiler, MSW  
Retired DoD Civilian

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 7:15:12 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Julie Yamato	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony and many invaluable kudos to Representative Gene Ward for letting our community know about this bill. I respectfully OPPOSE this bill as it prevents the constitutional right of parents to have a say in their child's learning, not to mention imposes an unfair fine for being smart about protecting their child. If parents are so upset about something the school is doing, I would encourage them to let their school know. Just because the school is bomarded with calls doesn't mean parents should face censorship. In fact, the school and the school system should work to fix the problem that the parent is pointing out. What is the school promoting or teaching that warranted these calls? There are two sides to every story and the school's complaints about the parents must have been the result of extreme significance on the part of the school. Instead, parent's should be allowed to state their concerns and be heard rather than be ignored and condemed as a nuisance especially in regard to their child's curriculum and what is being taught in the school. Our Hawaii communities have a stake in the success and growth of our young students and you our legislature are our voice to correct the wrongs that our parents are calling in to schools to complain about. When schools are not teaching the right curriculum, there should be a way for parents to make these complaints and for the school to fix its problem to the approval of the parents students and community. If a teacher providing a curriculum and or a curriculum is at issue, then this must be stopped and addressed as soon it is recognized, and the issue should not be shoved under the table but in fact dealt with and stopped. Our keiki are precious and we need to be sure that they learn only right and great things that will raise them up into the opportunities they desire that only support and foster our Hawaii, nation's, and world's communities for the good of all humanity and our human civilization. Thank you for hearing my testimony comments about my opposing this HB. Please do the right thing and join me in OPPOSING HB2125 HD1 for the good of our students parents teachers and school system. Have a nice day.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 7:21:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Shane Andjelic-Davies	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I completely oppose. This goes against our rights of free speech, and frankly not needed. If there are true threats to staff we have other laws to cover that.

This will limit the parents involvment with the school ,THAT WE PAY FOR THROUGH OUR TAXES.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 7:55:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Ralph Sherman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill 2125 is an abomination. The whole point of a school board is so that the parents can have input into the decisions that are being made with regard to their children. It's their children, the school board works for them not the other way around. This bill would criminalize the parents who object to how the school system is run. We already know that we cannot trust the schools to do the right thing for our children because the schools are pushing masks, social distancing, vaccines, CRT, LBGQXYZ agenda, etc. Just say no to tyranny and vote no on HB 2125!

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 8:44:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Felicia Castro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I Oppose bill HB2125. It's not right for the government to make such bills to criminalize parents for standing up on what is taught to our children. Out with this evil!

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 8:52:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Kimberly Mizuta	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am opposed to the bill.



**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 9:55:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Debbie Wyand	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. There are already laws that prevent this. We do not need MORE LEGISLATION when current laws will suffice.

thank you.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 9:56:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Patrick Watson	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill as it opens the door for dangerous and irresponsible control by schools over parents and children.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 10:14:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Melanie Hom	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a resident of Honolulu and parent, I am deeply concerned about the ramifications of this bill. I urge our representatives to vote NO on HB2125.

Mahalo for your time and service to our community!

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 10:24:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Teresa O	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a parent and a free citizen, I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 2125HD1. What happened to the ALOHA????? The wording in this bill is extremely broad, purely subjective, and potentially retaliatory against parents. Terms such as "harass, annoy, alarm, disrupts, and interferes" are without definition and thus can mean anything to anyone today and something completely different tomorrow.

In the testimony of Interim Superintendent of Education, Keith Hayashi's testimony, he claims:

*"The existing laws do not address educational workers who have become victimized by irrational and uncompromising parents and individuals whose goal is to taunt, harass, and intimidate school officials so that they give in to their unreasonable demands through coercion or by intentional delay tactics. Some of the tactics used are constant badgering, name-calling, and harassing of school officials with persistent telephone calls, flooding the answering machines to capacity so that legitimate messages from parents or other individuals cannot be received, rejecting mail and email notifications, and thereby thwarting the school's ability to perform tasks mandated by federal and state laws. The unruly behavior disrupts the school environment, causes fear and anxiety in school officials, and undermines the school's ability to conduct its business, fulfill its responsibilities, and meet required timelines."*

Did anyone substantiate these claims or are they only based on the DOE's perceptions? Could this be a gross over exaggeration of reality? The DOE has fewer employees working in their offices now, less staff, and less coverage which means they will automatically have an increased workload for those who DO go to work daily. Mr. Hayashi's testimony sounds more like a rant than anything else.

Compounding the matter, parents have suffered for two years and counting while the DOE influences COVID policies forcing parents to make untimely financial decisions about whether to go to work or stay home with their children because DOE employees were afraid to go to work.

I believe Mr. Hayashi's characterization of parents is unfair, misrepresentative and a mischaracterization of the real issues here. Parents are not at fault, rather it is a culmination of issues that have been unaddressed for the past 2 years by the DOE, the legislature, and the state.

Further, parents who disagree with the direction of their child's education should have the right to voice their concerns without a threat of criminality. Programs such as CRT, "Pono" sex-education, transgenderism and other programs have become the focus of education on the mainland and most likely will be the case here even though children in the public schools can hardly complete basic functions like reading, writing, and math upon graduation.

And this bill will intentionally or unintentionally affect the rights of special education students. Educational employees, including those in IEP meetings have been known to "harass, annoy, alarm, disrupt and interfere" with parents while diminishing parental rights. This bill will prevent parents from advocating for their special needs child because of a threat of a misdemeanor. This will be another negative consequence of this bill. This is very wrong.

HB 2125 will grossly stifle parental rights, advocacy and civil liberties of both parents and students because of the threat of a misdemeanor. This type of censorship under a false guise of protecting educational employees will only foster more public discourse and distrust with the government and the DOE, not less.

I am shocked the legislature has entertained such a bill since it promotes the antagonistic and contentious "us versus them" attitude towards taxpaying citizens and their children. Do we really need this as a society?

The legislature should focus on helping to prepare children to become independent, and productive adults in our community, not just robots who cannot think for themselves or carry out basic functions to advance themselves financially and economically. This bill will not help that cause.

Band aid approaches like HB 2125HD1 do not work. This is poor governance.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 10:25:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Shaina Wright	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is an overreach of power. We as parents have every right to address concerns we have with the school or school board about our children.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 10:25:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Karli Miyata	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a lifelong resident of Hawaii, I strongly OPPOSE this legislation! Parents should have a say in their own children's education and the right to protect them as they deem appropriate. Children do NOT belong to the government, and the government should not have more rights/influence over children than their own parents. Please stay focused on the REAL criminals and crime in this state. Thank you.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 10:58:52 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Vanessa Ince	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

HB2125 is severely biased and creates dangerous situations for all children, but particularly disabled children, who cannot speak for themselves. The DOE has maintained a position of secrecy and noncommunication with parents, so that DOE staff have been allowed to conduct themselves in unethical manner that is harmful to special needs children, who are unable to speak up and stand up for themselves. When parents have found out about what has been happening in many special needs classrooms, the parents have been outraged and expressed their objections to DOE staff. In response to this, parents have received denial of the harmful misbehaviors, which then continue unchecked. DOE staff have been unresponsive, dishonest, and some times downright cruel to our children. To then be able to label parents as "annoying" or "harassing," and file misdemeanor charges against parents when they are just trying to stand up for the rights of Hawaii's most vulnerable children is an outrage. It would be more useful to have a HB that requires the DOE to maintain clear, honest, open and consistent communication with parents. This, in and of itself, could eliminate alot of the communications that the DOE could label as "annoying." Please try to see the entire picture, not just one side of the story, in establishing laws to protect DOE staff, over and above the needs of the children of Hawaii.



**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 11:01:37 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Tabitha Kukahiko	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

As a parent and Hawaii tax payer/contributor, I am in strong opposition to HB 2125. I am upset and do not endorse this agenda in silencing parents, especially if what is being taught in schools goes against our family values and morals. I believe that parents play a vital role in what our children are learning, particularly that of what kind of curriculum schools are using to teach our kids. So, if I "interfere" by questioning what my children are learning in class, I can be charged with a "misdemeanor" and put in jail or charged a fine of \$2,000? This is NOT PONO at all! Vote to Oppose HB 2125.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 11:05:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Natasha Hirata	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It is insane to criminalize parents for being advocates for their children. These children are NOT YOUR property. It is important for parents to be involved in THEIR children's education. Please vote "NO" on this bill.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 11:34:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Sandra Rivas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill undermines parents involvement in regards to their childs education. I myself am a educator for the DOE. I do not need incese protection. If a parent in passionate about their child's education let them speak and be heard. This bill undermines the parents, even criminalizing them if their point of view is different from the DOE employee. Stop limiting parents' voices with treats of criminaliziing them.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 11:37:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Mary Smart	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I vehemently oppose HB2125 HD1. It is already illegal to threaten anyone. Teachers do not need more protection than any other citizen. We are all equal under the law. This bill gives the impression that Hawaii wants to criminalize parents/guardians who oppose the radical agenda of our school system. We have seen parents expressing their concerns about curricula in Virginia. Parents are paying for their children's education and they are finding out the curricula is more about indoctrination and sexualization than academics. School board are not listening to parents (the people paying for the education system). A candidate for Virginia Governor had the gall to say that parent's shouldn't have a say in their child's education. That probably lost the election for him. In retaliation for speaking up against the non-educational curricula, the Virginia parents were disrespectfully called "domestic terrorists". Nothing could be further from the truth. They were citizens fulfilling their civic duty regarding participative government. Criminalizing parents/guardians, and using the teacher (who is doing as directed by upper management) as the scapegoat, is not the answer. Children in Hawaii are not getting educated in our public schools even though our cost per student is high. Many teachers disapprove of the curricula (propaganda) they are required to teach. Parents deserve to have well education children but the schools are failing. Speaking up for their child is not harassment. Do not pass HB2125 HD1.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 11:52:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Jason Maga	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

We are the Maga family, and we strongly oppose HB2125. As parents of a former special education student, our family encountered significant difficulty from various levels within the DOE when trying to obtain the necessary supports that our child was entitled to under Federal Law. This bill's language is extremely vague, and we can see the DOE using this bill to shield itself from scrutiny by accusing well intended parents of harassment without sufficient cause or evidence. In addition, passing HB 2125 is not necessary because there are already laws in place that address harassment of this kind.

Respectfully,

Jason Maga, Michelle Pestel-Maga and Anya Maga

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 11:53:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Kathleen Bates	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

This bill is overreaching of power and scope. We all know the statistics behind abuse by some schools and their staff. There are countless stories about this in the news. How is this Bill going to prevent further abuse, if parents/families cannot address this with the schools or staff? This proposal would only benefit those 'educators' by allowing them an escape SHOULD they conduct any type of malfeasance. What's to stop an abusive educator from claiming 'harassment' when called out?! Growing up, I have had classmates sexually abused and emotionally abused by so called educators. This can be handled much better, without arming schools and this staff with a way to make them unaccountable. If there truly is a problem with a parent/family, we know there are already policies in place to deal with that.

There is already enough entitlement with some people working in the education system. why arm them with even more privilege to do as they want? Ask yourselves that question. Everyone should be accountable for their actions, even you lawmakers that even consider this a viable option.

Right now we have more important issues that are happening in children's lives: like bullying in schools. Children are taking their lives, because schools or current guidelines aren't enforcing or preventing this, but your concern is about adult educators?!

Do you know why most schools have Parent and Board meetings? There has been a history of anuse of power by schools for a LOOOONG time. It is a duty by parents/families to check them. Don't arm schools to do as they want.

Schooling always starts at home. This bill proposes to interfere with that. The Hawaii education already has enough issues with it being at the bottom of the totem pole. Obviously there is a problem with the current state of the education system here. Work on that issue, before convincing yourselves that your guidelines truly improve children's lives. Ridiculous.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 12:20:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
R. L. Souza	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Utter insanity! Charging parents with crimes for advocating for their child and using a subjective term like "annoying" another as justification? There just aren't words colorful enough to describe how many shades of tyrannical and asinine this measure is!

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 12:20:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Rosemarie Jauch	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

The HBOE, HDOE and HSTA are drunk with power yet consistently produce academically inferior results. The SBA scores for Reading and Math are not even hitting the proficient level statewide. The meetings have all been digital video for the last two years anyway. How about they open up our public spaces and meetings to in person again? The idea of charging members of the community with harassment is turning educators into law enforcers. By whom and how will this proposed enforcement take place?

The annual per pupil spending for public school in Hawaii of \$15,242 is relinquished for each withdrawn student... would that be considered misdemeanor harassment if voiced in one of their meetings? Or perhaps the gate swings both ways and citizens can perform a citizen's arrest the harassing individuals on the Board and charge them with harassment?

I oppose this measure.



**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 12:25:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Rona Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**I DO NOT SUPPORT** and say **NO** to this HB 2125. As a parent, I have an obligation and a right to protect and speak up for my children. We as parents, should not be charged with a misdemeanor for advocating for our children whenever it is appropriate with regards to the school environment/setting.

I oppose HB 2125 HD 1

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 1:22:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
lizeL zeager	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is a terrible thing to do. As parents raise their children, they have a right to speak up if something is amiss, ESPECIALLY if it has to do with their schooling, education, health, and safety. Passing this would create more animosity and unnecessary chaos, and decrease communication and collaboration between parents and school staff. This is unethical and goes against the First Amendment of the US Constitution. Do not pass this bill. Thank you.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 1:33:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Yvette Guerrero	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I, Yvette Guerrero strongly OPPOSE this radical left agenda of HB2125 HD1. This Bill is ridiculous and should be thrown out the window. NO WEAPON ( HB2125 HD1) FORMED AGAINST US (We the people of Hawaii) SHALL PROSPER, IN THE NAME OF JESUS AMEN.

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 1:38:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Nicol Bradley	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a parent of a special needs child in elementary school, I along with my husband have serious concerns about the vague verbiage use in this Bill. The terms "annoy, alarm and disrupt" are completely open to interpretation and while we believe that those that interact with our children on campuses deserve respect, this Bill seems to be an extreme overreach.

Additionally, the term "person" is vague as well. Children attending school will make mistakes and at times act out due to a variety of causes because they are children, and it is the job of educators, administrators, and parents to work together to help course correct in these situations. A Bill this severe and vague opens the door for the real possibility of steps being overlooked in helping our children causing long term harm to their psyche and ultimately their future.

We understand the thought process in trying to enact something like this at this time as the pandemic has created an extremely challenging educational climate for those on campuses. It should also be noted that it has been extremely challenging at home for families as well and this Bill seems to be poorly timed. We should allow for the dust to settle as we return to a "normal" way of life before enacting legislation this severe and should take a look at the tools and measures that are currently in place to protect these individuals before swinging the pendulum so severely that our children's and family's voices will be silenced due to fear based on such extremes.

Mahalo,

Nicol & James Bradley

**LATE**

**HB-2125-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 1:47:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Shigemi Okada	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Most importantly This bill violates the 1st amendment.

It also is dangerous and harmful to the very fabric of our nation's value on which it was built on. God first, family next, and others after these two. This bill will cause removal of parents rights and responsibilities in raising their children. No government entities including but not limited to schools should pretend to be the only resource for the right education for our children. We do not tolerate any system that attempts to corrupt the minds and hearts of our children and future generations with misinformation and disinformation including but not limited to pornography.