



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

Date: 03/24/2022

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: 309 Via Videoconference

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

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

Title of Resolution: HCR 0040 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INCORPORATE MEDIA LITERACY INTO THE EXISTING STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HCR 0040.

The Department recognizes it is imperative for all students to be educated in media literacy to prepare them with the skills and knowledge to successfully navigate the digital world.

The Department has collaborated with internal and external stakeholders to create a strategic multi-year computer science action plan focused on advancing innovative outcomes and learning experiences for all students. This action plan includes the delivery of high-quality standards-based computer science instruction and learning opportunities for all grade levels. The K-12 computer science standards consist of five (5) core concepts which include news and media literacy-related topics that prepare students to be well-informed and productive digital citizens.

In alignment with Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, and Act 158, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, each of the Department's fifteen (15) complex area computer science teams are developing their respective implementation plans that define learning pathways for students to develop foundational computer science skills at the elementary level and scaffold them into progressively more advanced learning opportunities at the middle and high school levels. Media literacy learning opportunities are embedded in the learning pathways for Grades K-12 computer science. In addition to the core computer science courses, the Department is collaborating with other curriculum content areas (including English Language Arts and Social Studies) to create

“integrated computer science” learning experiences that incorporate media literacy concepts.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HCR 0040.

HCR-40

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 9:19:54 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The kids should not have t be subjected to Fake News. We will handle what we want our Children to Know about the new or any thing Else. Parents are in Charge not the Government!!!!

HCR-40

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 11:22:13 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erinn Abragar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support resolution HCR40. As an educator, we are expected to have our students use technology in the classroom. I believe that students need the skills to analyze the information that they find online and on television/movies/radio and think critically about how these influence how they see themselves and society. Being media literate is just as important as reading because we live in a technology-driven society. It is important for our students to be responsible consumers and creators of media. Most importantly, students need to be responsible digital citizens. When I first started teaching about ten years ago, a student posted something about me that could have been potentially detrimental to my career and reputation. I don't think that she realized the potential ruin her actions could have caused. At that time, I had just started teaching some concepts of media literacy, but it was not a requirement to do so. I feel that if the student was educated more about media literacy and digital citizenship, she would have thought twice about posting potentially slanderous information. Since that incident, I became an advocate for media literacy in the classrooms. Thank you!

Dear Education Committee Members,

I am in support of Resolution HCR40. I have lived in Hawaii for 35 years and I have been a teacher for 50 years. Since 2016, I have taught Media Literacy lessons in various classrooms, grades 4-12, and two summer programs in East Hawaii, I have seen firsthand the need for educating our Digital Age children in the basics of Internet safety, social media risks and benefits, the persuasion tools used by advertisers, how mass media affects society, how to recognize when a TikTok Influencer is being paid to endorse a product, how to VERIFY information before passing it on, and how to recognize if they become entrenched in the quagmire of Confirmation Bias and “doom scrolling”.

Media Literacy teaches students how to Analyze (critical thinking), Evaluate (self-awareness) and Create (responsible use of technology). The plethora and variety of lessons that make up the subject of Media/Information Literacy lend itself to be integrated into a teacher’s existing curriculum. Teachers’ concerns about adding another burden can be assuaged in a one day workshop. They can understand that teaching children this subject develops healthy personal and online habits which increases the well being for the individual and the community as a whole. And it can be fun and not difficult to teach. It is a critical time for our students to learn how to detect misleading information and how to take a step back from the thrall of Digital Media.

Here’s an example of what students learn by analyzing and evaluating the following picture.

Question: is this a picture of a ship on a cliff **real** or **fake**?



It’s **REAL**. It is a hotel in South Korea. Students learn how to verify by doing a reverse image search to find out the answer.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

In support of HCR40

As the grandmother of young 2 girls at Pahoia Elementary School, I am an advocate for them and all students in Hawaii, concerning the overwhelming amount of information available to them and the need for their ability to question what is and will be presented to them on a daily basis for the rest of their lives.

In this age of social media, it's imperative that our children have a real understanding of the influence that goes along with current and upcoming technologies. Being aware of how they are being targeted and how to question, research and use critical thinking skills before accepting all information as FACT. From simple Facebook memes, to news outlets and agenda driven sites, our children need to be given the skills to never jump to conclusions (as is the norm for even the vast majority of adults.)

I truly believe that this is a very important time in an ever growing digital era to make this subject part of the student curriculum. They are the future and we need them to be able to navigate and verify information using the best lessons and tools available.