

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP AND ENFORCE NON-SEX
SEGREGATED DRESS CODES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL FORMAL EVENTS.

1 WHEREAS, in the school year 2021-2022, an East Oahu public
2 high school had sex-segregated dress codes for formal events
3 such as homecoming and graduation; and
4

5 WHEREAS, students of the East Oahu public high school
6 expressed their concerns in a student-made petition about the
7 sex-segregated dress codes for public school formal events; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the current sex-segregated dress codes for public
10 school formal events uphold the false idea that the definitions
11 of sex and gender are the same; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the current sex-segregated dress codes for public
14 school formal events uphold negative sex-based stereotypes; and
15

16 WHEREAS, the current public school sex-segregated dress
17 codes do not uphold Title IX of the federal Education Amendments
18 of 1972, codified as title 20 United States Code section 1681 et
19 seq., which prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation
20 and gender identity and protects those who do not conform with
21 sex-based stereotypes; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the current public school sex-segregated dress
24 codes do not uphold Act 110, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, which
25 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity,
26 and expression in the State; and
27

28 WHEREAS, the current public school sex-segregated dress
29 codes do not uphold the First Amendment to the United States
30 Constitution, as contained in the United States Bill of Rights,
31 which protects the right of expression; and



S.C.R. NO. 156

1
2 WHEREAS, the development of non-sex segregated dress codes
3 will help make public school formal events more inclusive to
4 māhū, gender non-conforming, and transgender students; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the development of non-sex segregated dress codes
7 would affirm students with a diversity of gender expressions
8 rather than alienate them; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Youth Commission adopted Resolution
11 22-020, urging the Board of Education to push for non-sex
12 segregated dress codes for public school formal events; now,
13 therefore,
14

15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
17 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education
18 is urged to work with schools and youth leaders to develop and
19 enforce non-sex segregated dress codes for public school formal
20 events to create a positive and safe space for all students; and
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
24 Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, and Chair of
25 the Honolulu Youth Commission.
26
27
28

OFFERED BY: _____

