

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



JOHN S.S. KIM
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

FOR: SB 2348 SD1 Relating to Bullying
DATE: February 19, 2020
TIME: 10:00 A.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Ways and Means
ROOM: Conference Room 211
FROM: Sione Thompson, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 2348 SD1**. This measure provides funds to train selected public middle school teachers, including public charter school teachers, on bullying intervention so that those teachers may train other teachers in their respective schools.

The Commission strongly supports the amendments provided by the Committee on Education which **clarified that any training and funding provided on bullying intervention shall include charter middle school teachers** as well as teachers in department schools. Of the 37 public charter schools operating, 30 schools have a middle school division; three schools, out of the total amount of 30, exclusively serve middle school students.

The Commission looks forward to collaborating with the Legislature, the DOE, other interested stakeholders, and public charter schools in moving this legislation forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



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

Date: 02/19/2020
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: 211
Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2348, SD1 RELATING TO BULLYING.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for public charter school and selected public middle school teachers to attend an evidence-informed or evidence-based and culturally relevant bullying intervention training session and for public charter school and those selected public middle school teachers to provide training on bullying intervention to other public school and public charter school employees in their respective schools. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 2348, SD 1 and respectfully offers comments. The Department is committed to providing a comprehensive array of evidence-based practices, culturally-responsive support, and training for staff, teachers, school administrators, complex area, and district personnel. This ensures that all students feel supported and safe in school: socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically. Board of Education Policy 101.7

The Department continuously works to reduce bullying and cyberbullying by emphasizing the importance of a positive school climate and the effective implementation of an evidence-based social and emotional learning (SEL) program. Statewide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) training and technical assistance are provided to support schools in addressing, improving, and maintaining a positive school climate. PBIS is an application of behavioral-based systems approach to enhance the capacity of schools, families, and communities to design effective school environments that focus on a school-wide system of positive support. It includes proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments.

Research has shown that bullying prevention efforts in the middle school years have the greatest impact when integrated within a positive school climate and strong SEL program. Currently, the Department is offering training to all complex areas on the implementation, capacity building, and sustainability of both PBIS and SEL within the Hawaii Multi-tiered System of Support. Additional support is provided to schools through Vulnerability Assessments and the Tiered Fidelity Inventory.

The Department addresses bullying prevention in the Health curriculum as well as cyberbullying prevention in the Computer Science curriculum for students. Several schools partner with Mental Health America of Hawaii in offering Youth Suicide and Bullying Prevention training to students.

Statewide efforts by the Department such as Unity Day and October Bullying Prevention Month provide educators and community partners with awareness activities and resources. Responsive measures to empower student voice is achieved through restorative practices and the Department's Speak Now anti-bullying application for reporting bully incidents safely. The Department continues to maintain strong and collaborative interagency partnerships on the Prevent Suicide Hawaii Task Force and the Bullying Prevention Task Force as well as the Mental Health Task Force to address such issues. The Department continues to collaborate with state and community agencies to maximize all available resources and training opportunities.

Finally, the Department is thankful for the appropriation within the bill but would look forward to further discussing the requisite amount for implementation. The current appropriation is insufficient for the additional costs of the Bullying Prevention Training for 41 middle school and 30 charter school teachers, consisting of eight sessions at a cost of \$20,000-\$30,000; and an additional \$25,000 needed for 71 substitutes and/or stipend pay. This appropriation also does not include the costs for materials, handouts, and program implementation. The Department asks that these factors be considered when reviewing this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2348, SD 1.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2020 1:13:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Golojuch Jr	Testifying for LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 904 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Rick Collins, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hawaii

Big Island Substance Abuse Council

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Collins Consulting, LLC

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action Network

Hawaii Health & Harm

Reduction Center

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Kokua Ohana Aloha (KOA)

Maui Youth and Family Services

Na Pu'uwai Molokai Native

Hawaiian Health Care Systems

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

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

PHOCUSED

PFLAG – Kona Big Island

Planned Parenthood of the

Great Northwest and

Hawaiian Islands

Residential Youth Services

& Empowerment (RYSE)

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community Center

The Catalyst Group

February 16, 2020

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
And members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Testimony in Support of SB 2348 SD 1 Related to Bullying

Hawaii Youth Services Network, a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 2348 SD 1 Relating to Bullying.

For 9 out of the past 13 years, bullying has been one of the top concerns of the youth who participate in the annual Children and Youth Summit at the State Capitol each October. They tell us that teachers and other school staff do not respond effectively when they witness bullying or bullying is reported by students.

As one concerned grandparent told me, “We are teaching our granddaughter about the issue. Last year she reported 3 kids to teacher because they were taunting a home less girl...{My granddaughter said the teacher just told them not to do again...the kids got nothing out of it.”

According to the Hawaii Youth Behavioral Risk Survey, Hawaii has a low rate of youth violence in almost every area except bullying. The number of youth who have stated that they were afraid to go to school or have missed school due to bullying is much higher than the national average. 22.6% of middle school students in Hawaii were cyber-bullied, 40% were bullied on school property, 23.1% seriously considered suicide, and 12.4% attempted suicide during past 12 months (Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2017)

Parent concern about the bullying experienced by their children in public schools has led to multiple lawsuits and judgments against the Department of Education.

In 2018, 3 families sued the Hawaii Dept. of Education alleging “alleges the department has failed to provide a safe environment to its students due to lackluster policies and procedures governing student-on-student bullying and harassment.” {Honolulu Civil Beat, 8/31/2018}

Also in 2018, the Dept. of Education “agreed to pay \$10,000 to settle a two-year-old lawsuit alleging school officials did nothing to address recurring sex-based harassment against two students on the Big Island.”

“The lawsuit, brought by former Hilo resident Joshua Franklin on behalf of his two minor sons, claimed the boys were taunted by other students and called homophobic names like “faggot” and “queer” as school administrators stood by and didn’t stop the harassment or properly investigate the complaints. It also alleged school officials didn’t receive proper training on LGBTQ issues.” {Honolulu Civil Beat, 9/14/18}

School personnel are not prepared to prevent or intervene effectively to address bullying and harassment. Middle school is the time when bullying is most prevalent. Thus, the pilot training project targets middle schools.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 2:43:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
amy agbayani	Testifying for Filipina Advocacy Network FAN	Support	No

Comments:

This will definitely help protect and educate children and youth and professionals.



of Hawaii

Hawaii State Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hearing Date/Time: February 19, 2020 10:00AM
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211
Re: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB2348 SD1

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

Members of AAUW of Hawaii are grateful for this opportunity to testify in support of SB2348 SD1, which would appropriate funds for bullying-intervention "train the trainers" training for selected public middle school teachers.

Bullying is a serious problem for the students in Hawaii, especially for the middle school students. According to the CDC 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 22.6% of middle school students in Hawaii were cyber-bullied, 40% were bullied on school property, 23.1% seriously considered suicide, and 12.4% attempted suicide during past 12 months of the survey. Youth who report frequently bullying others and youth who report being frequently bullied is at increased risk for suicide; youth who report both bullying others and being bullied have the highest risk for suicide.¹

Three out of eight groups of students, who participated in AAUW Honolulu-Ceeds of Peace-Women's Fund of Hawaii's Girls Talk Back program, identified bullying as most serious problem they wanted to work on. While some teachers try to address the problem, bullying continues; some teachers even shrug it off or dismiss it saying "everyone goes through bullying".

While mandating bullying prevention for all students, employees and parents, and bullying intervention training for all employees is ideal, this bill will appropriate funds to pilot "train the trainers" with those who are most eager to learn. While trainings for primary schools and high schools are also needed, this bill will pilot the training for middle schools for the bullying problem is the worst for middle school students, according to the CDC 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/bullying-suicide-translation-final-a.pdf>

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawaii is a state-wide organization made up of six branches (Hilo, Honolulu, Kauai, Kona, Maui, and Windward Oahu) and includes just over 650 active members with over 3800 supporters statewide. As advocates for gender equity, AAUW of Hawaii promotes the economic, social, and physical well-being of all persons.

Please pass this important bill to save our keiki. Mahalo.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Younghee Overly', is positioned above the typed name.

Younghee Overly
Public Policy Chair, AAUW of Hawaii
publicpolicy-hi@aauw.net



Hawaii Women's Coalition

To: Hawaii State Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 10:00AM
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 211
Re: Testimony of Hawaii Women's Coalition in support of S.B.2348 SD1

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Women's Coalition writes in support of S.B. 2348 SD1, to appropriate funds for selected public middle school teachers to attend a bullying intervention training session and for those selected public middle school teachers to provide training on bullying intervention to other public school employees in their respective schools.

According to 2017 CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 22.6% of middle school students in Hawaii were cyber-bullied, 40% were bullied on school property, 23.1% seriously considered suicide, and 12.4% attempted suicide during past 12 months. Youth who report frequently bullying others and youth who report being frequently bullied is at increased risk for suicide; youth who report both bullying others and being bullied have the highest risk for suicide.

In 2018, three families sued the Hawaii Department of Education alleging that the DOE failed to provide a safe environment to its students (Honolulu Civil Beat, 8/31/2018); also in 2018, the Hawaii DOE agreed to pay \$10,000 to settle a lawsuit which alleged that the school officials didn't do anything to address recurring gender-based harassment on the Big Island (Honolulu Civil Beat, 9/14/2018). Lack of effective bullying prevention and intervention is a serious problem for our keiki and families but also costly to Hawaii state government.

While mandating bullying prevention for all students and employees and bullying-intervention training for all employees is what we may need to do, we want to pilot "train the trainers" with those who are eager to learn from the pilot first. While we need to train all students, parents, and employees, the problem is most severe in middle school and a pilot in middle school is a good start.

Thank you for your support for this important measure to protect our keiki.

Sincerely,
Hawaii Women's Coalition



To: Senator Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways & Means

Re: **SB 2348 SD1 Relating to bullying**
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211
10:00AM, 2/19/2020

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and committee members,

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!, we write in support of SB 2348 SD1-relating to bullying.

Bullying is a major problem across our country. The impact of being bullied and bullying last long into adulthood. Children who are bullied are more likely to experience depression and anxiety, poor academic performance, and health complaints. Locally, 40% of middle school students said they'd been bullied on school property. And more shockingly, 1 in 10 middle schoolers attempted suicide and of the female students, that number is almost 1 in 5.¹ We cannot allow these statistics to remain; we need to do better for our kids.

Teachers and school staff play a large role in how students feel about their school as a safe place or as a place for potential violence. A teacher who students see as modeling positive behaviors and fairness can help reduce bullying in their classrooms and across the school. This bill takes a "train the trainers" approach to mitigate bullying through interventions that can then be brought back to other school faculty. This is not to replace any current anti-bullying efforts but to add an additional layer. Bullying is pervasive and we cannot stop at a single approach.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2348 SD1 and respectfully request the committee pass the bill.

Thank you,

Kathleen Algire
Director, Public Policy and Research

¹ CDC 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, <https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Results.aspx?LID=HI>

LATE

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 5:39:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Monk	Testifying for Women's Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2020 8:45:16 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am writing in support of SB2348 SD1 which appropriates funds for public charter school and selected public middle school teachers to attend an evidence-informed or evidence-based and culturally relevant bullying intervention training session and for public charter school and those selected public middle school teachers to provide training on bullying intervention to other public school and public charter school employees in their respective schools. (SD1)

I have been bullied and I wish there were more people that could have helped me to stand up to the bully. It makes sense to train teachers on how to effectively mitigate and/or stop bullying in school. Students who are being bullied and students who do not bully other students will learn the positive behaviors from these teachers. We need to show students and teachers how to intervene.

Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2020 5:28:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynn Robinson-Onderko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2020 5:43:53 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamuela Werner MPH	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2020 8:20:37 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark A. Koppel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members

Bullying, whether against ethnic or sexual minorities, is a serious problem in our schools. School personnel need to be taught how to recognize and deal with this problem.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS BILL.

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 7:45:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin Salisbury	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 1:29:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SB2348.

Bullying in childhood can later have an adverse impact on adult lives.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei, Maui

**Honorable Justin H. Woodson
Lower and High Education**

**Senate Bill 2348
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI
Time/Date of hearing: February 19th, 2020, at 10:00AM in Conference room 211**

Purpose: Appropriates funds for public charter school and public middle school teachers to attend an evidence-informed or evidence-based culturally relevant bullying intervention

My name is Kanani Naipo. I am a candidate for a Masters in Social Work, at the Myron. B Thompson School of Social Work, through the University of Hawaii Manoa. I am in strong support of Senate Bill 2348, related to providing evidence-based/ evidence-informed and culturally relevant intervention training for teachers in public charter and public middle schools.

Throughout my work with at-risk youth I have witnessed the impact bullying can have on adolescents/teenagers. As an example, one client of middle school age had disclosed to me that they did not want to go back to school. They stated that they never felt accepted by their peers and that peers treated them terribly because they were receiving special education services and because they had mental health challenges. They felt like they had no one to turn to in school.

Had a teacher been provided with the skills to intervene when this youth was facing bullying, maybe they would have felt comfortable and safe enough to return to school. I hope that if Senate Bill 2348 is passed it will protect youth from bullying and the many negative, long-term effects it can have such as increased risk for substance use, mental and behavioral problems, academic problems, and violence against others. When adults consistently and quickly respond to bullying it sends the message that it will not be tolerated.

I ask that we move forward in the passing of this bill and working toward remedying preventable long-term effects on youth. Please feel free to ask me any questions and thank you for your time.

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 7:15:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I definitely support SB2348. All steps should be taken to reduce bullying and training programs would be beneficial.

Please pass SB2348.

Thank you,

Mike Golojuch, sr.

SB-2348-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 8:44:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jo-Ann M Adams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Bullying unchecked can have fatal consequences. We need to do all that we can to reverse the increase in bullying. Children deserve to learn and grow in a safe and protected environment, like all living things.

This proposal targets the precise population that could benefit from it most. I heartily support this legislation.

SB 2348 Relating to Bullying

Hawaii State Capitol

415 S. Beretania St. Honolulu, HI

Committee: Committee of Ways and Means

Time & Date of Hearing: February 19, 2020 at 10:00AM in Conference Room 211

Purpose: Appropriates funds for public charter school and selected public middle school teachers to attend an evidence-informed or evidence-based and culturally relevant bullying intervention training session and for public charter school and those selected public middle school teachers to provide training on bullying intervention to other public school and public charter school employees in their respective schools.

Dear Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,

My name is Kelsey Ishikawa, and I am currently a graduate student pursuing a Social Work degree, at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work at University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am grateful to be writing this testimony in support of Senate Bill 2348, to reduce bullying in public schools and appropriate funds to train those selected public school teachers on bullying intervention so that they can go back and train other employees at their respective schools.

In 2018, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) completed a compliance review on the state's handling of bullying within schools. During the 2014-2015 academic year, the survey which included almost 70,000 students, showed that nearly 40 percent of students who had experienced or witnessed acts of bullying made them feel unsafe. Students also reported that incidents of bullying were based on race, national origin, sex or disability. Over half of these bullying incidents were reported, but nothing was done to stop almost 15 percent of these cases.

Bullying has become so much more frequent, especially with the rise of social media. Bullying and cyberbullying can negatively affect a child's development and mental health. Victims who suffer from this can be more susceptible to low self-esteem, depression, anxiety, substance use, violence, and suicide. Through my experience in working with children and adolescents, I've been able to witness firsthand the negative impact that bullying has on these individuals. I have worked with adolescents who have had a strong desire to drop out of school and try to attain their GED because they had experienced constant bullying from their peers, while growing up. I have also worked with clients who felt that they weren't loved or supported by anyone because when the bullying that ensued and they sought help, no one really did anything to help alleviate the situation. Providing trusted adults with the skills they need to intervene will benefit victims of bullying immensely, and will hopefully bring bullying to a halt in school settings.

I believe that if Senate Bill 2348 is passed, it will give teachers and adults working within schools, the opportunity to gain the knowledge, skills and tools necessary to intervene or prevent bullying within the school environment. The passing of this bill will display that adults within the school setting can act as a support and will also provide students with a much safer school environment, hopefully improving their sense of security.

Thank you all for your time and consideration.

LATE

Prepared for Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

In Support of SB2348

Wednesday, February 19, 2020, at 10:0AM in conference room 211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Honorable members,

I stand **in strong support of SB2348**, which seeks to appropriate funds for public charter school and selected public middle school teachers to attend an evidence-informed or evidence-based and culturally relevant bullying intervention training session and for public charter school and those selected public middle school teachers to provide training on bullying intervention to other public school and public charter school employees in their respective schools. (SD1).

As a graduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work and a member of the LGBTQ community, I am honored to submit my testimony on a social issue that has infiltrated Hawaii's school system, bullying.

In 2017, the Center of Disease Control and Prevention Middle School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) surveyed roughly 6,252 middle school students which resulted in findings that overall 40% of students were bullied on school property. While, 22.6% of students were electronically bullied (text, instagram, and other social media). In addition, 23.1% of students had serious thoughts about killing themselves, and 9.1% of students skipped school because they felt unsafe. These statistics provide a snapshot of the prevalence rate of bullying occurring with out Hawaii public schools. However, LGBT youth experience drastically higher Incidences of bullying.

According to the 2017 and 2018 Hawaii Sexual & Gender Minority Health Report, Hawaii LGB and Questioning youths experience higher incidences of bullying when compared to their heterosexual youth. in grades 6th to 12th, 55% of LGB and questioning students reported being bullied on school property, 48% reported being victims of electronic bullying (text or social media), and 34% skipped school because they felt unsafe. In addition, incidences of bullying is also prevalent amongst the transgender youth of Hawaii. With, 40% of transgender youth experienced being bullied (either at school or electronically) and 50% attempted suicide.

As we know, teachers play an crucial role in perpetuating an inclusive and safe campus climate, which have shown to have a positive impact on students academics, social, and emotional well-being. So, I ask that you consider the lives of Hawaii youth and respectfully request that the committee pass SB2348.

Mahalo nui loa,

Jordan Veniegas