Honolulu, Hawaii

AG 21 11 , 2006

RE: H.R. No. 53

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2006 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.R. No. 53 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A STATEWIDE SUICIDE EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this resolution is to develop a comprehensive statewide youth suicide and early intervention and prevention plan to provide effective early intervention and prevention services to deal with the rising rates of youth suicides.

Your Committee received comments on this resolution from the State of Hawaii, Department of Health and testimony in support from the Hawaii Suicide Prevention Steering Committee.

Your Committee finds that more children and young adults die from suicide each year than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, and chronic lung disease combined and nationally over four thousand youths take their lives annually, making suicide the third largest cause of death among those who are between ten and twenty-four years of age. Moreover, in Hawaii suicide is the second leading cause of death among those who are fifteen to twenty-four years of age and the rates of youth suicide have been on the rise in the last decade among both females and males and among all ethnic groups in Hawaii. Suicide is a serious public health tragedy affecting not only children and young

adults, but all adults in Hawaii, and preserving and protecting the lives of all people is a priority for the State.

Accordingly, your Committee notes that a concerted statewide youth suicide education, intervention, and prevention plan is needed to ensure prevention strategies to effectively deal with youth suicide.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 53 and recommends its adoption.

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

DENNIS A. ARAKAKI, Chair

## State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-third Legislature

HSCR 1684-06

## **Record of Votes of the Committee on Health**

Bill/Resolution No.: HR 53	Date:	4/06/06		
Committee Referral:	☐ The committee is reconsidering its			
	previous decision on the measure.			
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended	☐ Pass, with amendments			
□ Hold □ Recommit				
HLT Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. ARAKAKI, Dennis A. (C)				
2. GREEN, Josh, M.D. (VC)				
3. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.				
4. HALE, Heléne H.				
5. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.				
6. SONSON, Alex M.				
7. HALFORD, Chris				
TOTAL	4	0	o	3
The recommendation is:		•	•	
-				
□ Not Adopted				
If joint referral, did not support recommendation.  committee acronym(s)				
committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Clerk's Office				