Senator Norman Sakamoto Chair Senator Tokuda Jilln Vice chair Committee on

LATE

Sex education Monday, February, 11, 2008 Support of SB 2775 sex education

Hi my name is Keisha Ross representing Connections public charter school in Hilo Hawaii. You can contact me at Connections school the number is 866 961 3664. The address is 174 Kamehmeha Ave Hilo Hawaii 96720.I strongly support S.B. No. 2775 relating to sex education.

The Board of education; Department of Education; Sex Education mandates a sex education curricula that includes the concepts of abstinence, contraception, and sexually-transmitted disease prevention, and is required for graduation from public secondary schools in Hawaii. I strongly support S.B. No. 2775 relating to sex education.

I strongly believe that students should have to pass a sexual education class in order to graduate from high school, because this class holds a lot of life long knowledge. When a student takes this class they learn the risks of being sexually active, they also learn about sexually transmitted diseases, contraceptives, and teen pregnancy. Some of the things that they learn in this class may change some of the ways that students think about being sexually active. I'm not trying to say that it is going to make them not want to be sexually active but hopefully it will help them make better choices in life.

Right now I would like to present you with a few facts, Hawaii now ranks twelfth among the 55 states in the number of teen pregnancy's, and tenth in incidences of Chlamydia. Students go to school go to school for 13 years to get educated, we must take math, social studies, science, language arts and P.E to pass high school why wouldn't a sexual education class be required as well.

Again my name is Keisha Ross representing Connections Public Charter High school in Hilo Hawaii and I am in support of S.B No. 2755 having sexual education as a requirement in all public, secondary schools in Hawaii. You can contact me at Connections school the number is 866 961 3664. The address is 174 Kamehmeha Ave Hilo Hawaii 96720.