

SCR110 / SR76

Measure Title: REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO AFFIRM ITS COMMITMENT TO UPHOLD THE TENETS OF TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENT ACT OF 1972.

Report Title: Women's Legislative Caucus Package; Title IX; Sex Discrimination

Description:

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: EDU, JDL

Introducer(s): KIDANI, BAKER, CHUN OAKLAND, DELA CRUZ, INOUE, KEITH-AGARAN, KIM, SHIMABUKURO, L. THIELEN, TOKUDA, Nishihara, Taniguchi



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

Date: 03/23/2016
Time: 01:15 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 110 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO AFFIRM ITS COMMITMENT TO UPHOLD THE TENETS OF TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENT ACT OF 1972.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education ("Department") supports SR 76/SCR 110, which requests the Department to affirm its commitment to uphold the tenets of Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972 ("Title IX") and to provide a study on our progress in implementing the federal requirements of Title IX. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities which receives federal financial assistance.

As to SR 76/SCR 110's specific request that the Department (1) increase electronic and physical accessibility to Title IX information; (2) examine, revise, adopt and widely disseminate grievance procedures; (3) commit to increasing Title IX staff and resources; and (4) provide regular training to Department students and employees on Title IX; the Department has already initiated steps to comply with these items. SR 76/SCR 110 also requests the Department to examine the possibility of establishing a Title IX Coordinator in each complex area. The Department is willing to explore the responsibilities and costs that may be associated with the creation of such positions in each complex.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



March 23, 2016

To: Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Education

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta, Co-Chair

RE: SCR 110/SR 76 Requesting the Department of Education to affirm its commitment to the tenants of Title IX
Hearing: Wednesday, March 23, 2016, 1:15 p.m., Room 229

POSITION: Strong Support

The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus (HSDWC) writes in strong support of SCR 110 and SR 76 Requesting the Department of Education to affirm its commitment to the tenants of Title IX.

Until recently, the Hawai'i State Department of Education (HIDOE) did not even have a Title IX coordinator as required by Title IX. It is also required that employees of the department know who the Title IX coordinator is so that parents and students may be referred to that coordinator. Further, parents, students, and employees should easily be able to find the name of the coordinator on the HIDOE website. That information is not currently on the website or if it is, it is impossible to find.

In an informal poll, members of HSDWC called their local schools and asked to speak with the Title IX coordinator. No school (elementary, middle and high) knew a Title IX coordinator. Most often, the caller was referred to the athletic department.

It is unacceptable that 40 years after the passage of Title IX we are still asking our school system to follow the law. HIDOE is not in compliance with requirements of Title IX and in not complying, compromises that safety of our students from sexual assault, sexual harassment, and other gender-based violence.

At a minimum, HSDWC asks HIDOE to set a timeline on implementation of training, hiring additional coordinators, and publishing procedures for complaints and reporting. We suggest that HIDOE set an eventual goal of having a Title IX coordinator in every school.

The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus is a catalyst for progressive, social, economic, and political change through action on critical issues facing Hawaii's women and girls. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: annsfreed@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR110 on Mar 23, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 12:07:45 PM

SCR110

Submitted on: 3/22/2016

Testimony for EDU on Mar 23, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann S Freed	Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and members, The Women's Coalition is in strong support of this bill. We support the Women's Legislative Caucus in offering this resolution. This resolution about Title IX, also known as the Patsy Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act, will help to further a discussion about full implementation of the Act in our public schools. In order for a girl to be educated she needs to be free from sexual harassment and predation, not only from staff, but as importantly from her peers. The sexual bullying that has been allowed to go on for years has become accepted as the norm with each case being treated as an isolated incident. Title IX mandated coordinators for a reason. If trained coordinators exist throughout the system then hostile environments within the public schools will be addressed in a systematic way. Mahalo for hearing our testimony, Ann S. Freed Co-Chair Hawaii Women's Coalition

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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March 22, 2016

To: Hawaii State Senate Committee on Education
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 (1:15 P.m.)
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 229
Re: Testimony of American Association of University Women –
Hawaii in **support** of S.C.R. 110 / S.R. 76, REQUESTING
THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO AFFIRM ITS
COMMITMENT TO UPHOLD THE TENETS OF TITLE IX
OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENT ACT OF 1972

Dear Senator Michelle N. Kidani (Chair), Senator Breene Harimoto (Vice Chair),
and Members of the Committee,

I am grateful for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of S.C.R. 110 / S.R. 76,
requesting the Department of Education to affirm its commitment to uphold the tents of
Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972.

My testimony is on behalf of the 442 members of the American Association of University
Women (AAUW) in Hawaii, who list gender-based violence (including Title IX) as an
important policy focus. My testimony is informed by my experiences at the University of
Hawaii at Manoa, where there is much discussion about the implications of Title IX on
the college campus. It is deeply perturbing to me that there is not a similar level of
concern at the secondary and primary school level, the responsibility of the Hawaii
Department of Education.

There is ample evidence that sexual assault, harassment, stalking, and other forms of
gender-based violence are occurring among pre-university students (e.g., Beyer &
Ogletree [1998] “Sexual Coercion” *Journal of School Health*; Raj et al [2000] “..Sexual
Risk among High School Students” *Maternal & Child Health Journal*; Wordes & Nunez
[2002] *Our Vulnerable Teenagers*; Young et al. [2009] “Adolescent Experiences of
Sexual Assault ... School” *Journal of Youth Adolescence*). The need for Title IX
coordinators at Hawaii schools is well demonstrated by these depressing data from other
states. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education clearly states that local school
districts are included under Title IX (citing only one statement here, although many could
be listed: U.S. Department of Education [April 2015] “Title IX and Sex Discrimination”).
For all of these reasons please pass this proclamation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely
Susan J. Wurtzburg, Ph.D.
Policy Chair

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: laurie.field@ppvnh.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR110 on Mar 23, 2016 13:15PM*
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2016 11:49:53 AM

SCR110

Submitted on: 3/19/2016

Testimony for EDU on Mar 23, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: pc70@cornell.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR110 on Mar 23, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, March 20, 2016 11:55:05 AM

SCR110

Submitted on: 3/20/2016

Testimony for EDU on Mar 23, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Callahan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO AFFIRM ITS COMMITMENT TO UPHOLD THE TENETS OF TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENT ACT OF 1972.

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