
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP CHILD
SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION INITIATIVES.

1 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse is a sexual activity between an
2 adult and a child or between two minors if there is a
3 significant age, size, or power difference between them; and
4

5 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse can include a range of
6 activities such as sexual touching, sexualized talk, exposure of
7 genitals, rape, and involvement in pornography or prostitution;
8 and
9

10 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse can occur anywhere including
11 places like homes, neighborhoods, schools, and youth sports
12 environments, and activities such as child pornography and
13 communicating in a sexual manner may also occur over the phone
14 or on the internet; and
15

16 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse is frequently perpetrated by
17 individuals acquainted with the child and it may occur over
18 short or long periods of time with varying levels of coercion or
19 physical violence; and
20

21 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse is a potential threat to
22 societal safety and the people of Hawaii; and
23

24 WHEREAS, about one in seven girls and one in 25 boys will
25 be sexually abused before the age of 18; and
26

27 WHEREAS, it was estimated that in 2014 about 400,000 babies
28 born in the United States would later become victims of child
29 sexual abuse; and



1 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse is far more prevalent than most
2 people realize because children are victimized at a much higher
3 rate than adults; and
4

5 WHEREAS, children aged 17 and under account for nearly 70
6 percent of all reported sexual assaults; and
7

8 WHEREAS, in 2000, the sexual assault rate for youths aged
9 12 to 17 was 2.3 times higher than the rate for adults; and
10

11 WHEREAS, approximately 44 percent of rape victims are under
12 the age of 18 with children under the age of 12 accounting for
13 15 percent of the rape victims; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
16 (CAPTA) passed by the federal government in 1974 and
17 reauthorized in 2010, is the largest body of legislation in the
18 United States with regard to the fair, ethical, and legal
19 treatment of children, and its intent is to keep children free
20 from all forms of abuse including physical, sexual, emotional,
21 and psychological abuse; and
22

23 WHEREAS, although child abuse laws exist on federal, state,
24 and local levels, most child sexual abuse issues are governed by
25 state laws and regulations; and
26

27 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse impacts every community
28 regardless of socioeconomic status, culture, race, religion, or
29 gender; now, therefore,
30

31 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
32 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
33 of 2018, that the Department of Education is requested to
34 establish a task force to develop sustainable child sexual abuse
35 prevention initiatives that increase awareness, education,
36 prevention, and advocacy; and
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
39 comprise the following members, or their designees:
40

41 (1) Superintendent of Education;



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- (2) Director of Health;
- (3) Director of Human Services;
- (4) Attorney General;
- (5) Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning;
- (6) Executive Director of Hawaii Youth Services Network;
- (7) Executive Director of the Hawaii Children's Action Network;
- (8) Executive Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center;
- (9) Chair of the Senate standing committee with primary jurisdiction over education;
- (10) Chair of the House of Representatives standing committee with primary jurisdiction over education;
- (11) One elementary school principal, to be designated by the Superintendent of Education;
- (12) One secondary school principal, to be designated by the Superintendent of Education; and
- (13) One representative from a charter school, to be designated by the Executive Director of the State Public Charter School Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Education or the Superintendent's designee shall serve as the chair of the task force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to consider the following when developing child sexual abuse prevention initiatives:



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- (1) Current resources available in the State for educating children in public and private schools about sexual abuse prevention; and
- (2) Factors that heighten a child's risk of sexual abuse including socioeconomic status, ethnicity, geographic location, and previous exposure to crimes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force, with the assistance of the Department of Education, is requested to submit a report to the Legislature, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2019, on the progress made concerning the development of child sexual abuse prevention initiatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Board of Education; Superintendent of Education; Director of Health; Director of Human Services; Attorney General; Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning; Executive Director of the Hawaii Youth Services Network; Executive Director of the Hawaii Children's Action Network; Executive Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center; and Executive Director of the State Public Charter School Commission.

OFFERED BY:

Calvin K. By
Jerry [unclear]
John [unclear]
Guy [unclear]
Neise E. Lauer

FEB 06 2018



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

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

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 Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Maui Youth and Family Services

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

Parents and Children Together
(PACT)

Planned Parenthood of the
Great Northwest and
Hawaiian Islands

PHOCUSED

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community
Center

The Catalyst Group

March 21, 2018

To: Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
And members of the Committee on Education

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HR 17 REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION INITIATIVES.

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HR 17.

One in five girls and one in twenty boys have been victims of child sexual abuse. Three out of four adolescents who have been sexually assaulted were victimized by someone they knew well. (National Center for Victims of Crime data).

The only education I received about sexual abuse as a child was to beware of strangers. But it was not a stranger who sexually abused me and five other girls in my fourth grade class – It was my school bus driver. Every child on the bus witnessed the abuse daily for a month or more until someone finally reported it to the school. When we were questioned about it, we believed that we were the ones who had done something wrong.

If we had received education about sexual abuse, we would have recognized it immediately, known how to seek help, and understood that we were not to blame for what occurred. It could have been stopped after the first episode.

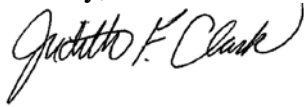
In the Northern Mariana Islands, HYSN is working with the Public School System on a sexual health education and positive youth development program. Last year, several sixth grade students who had completed a sex education curriculum reported to school staff that they were being sexually abused. Because of the education they received, they recognized that what was happening to them was abuse; understood that they did not have to allow it to happen; felt empowered to report it; and had trusted adults at the school with whom they could discuss it. While it is very sad that the children were abused, it is wonderful that they are receiving the help they need to end the abuse.

No child deserves sexual abuse, and prevention education in the schools is a powerful tool to prevent it.

Hawaii Youth Services Network would be pleased to provide a representative to serve on the task force.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Judith F. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "C".

Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director



Executive Director
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Linda Jameson

Michael P. Matsumoto

Nadine Tenn Salle, MD

Deane Salter

Joshua A. Wisch

Date: March 21, 2018

To: The Honorable Justin H. Woodson, Chair
The Honorable Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair
House Committee on Education

From: Justin Murakami, Policy Research Associate
The Sex Abuse Treatment Center
A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children

RE: Comments Regarding H.R. 17
Requesting the Establishment of a Task Force to Develop Child Sexual
Abuse Prevention Initiatives

Good afternoon Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kong and members of the House
Committee on Education:

The Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) appreciates the intent of House
Resolution 17, but respectfully recommends that the Committee pass Senate Bill
2368 Senate Draft 2, Relating to Education.

Sexual abuse remains a serious and ongoing threat to the safety, health and
wellbeing of children and young people in the State of Hawai'i, with costly physical,
mental and social consequences that reverberate through victims' families and
communities.

It is important that children and young people be taught the knowledge and skills
necessary to protect themselves against sexual violence and obtain help to end
abuse as quickly as possible. Moreover, it is critical that those who interact the
most with children and young people, including parents, other guardians, educators
and school staff, receive sufficient training to understand issues of sexual violence
and respond appropriately.

Whereas H.R. 17 would request the Department of Education to convene a task
force to consider possible initiatives, S.B. 2368 S.D. 2 would firmly require the
Department to implement a comprehensive, curricula-based program for regular,
consistent sexual violence prevention education in Hawai'i schools, with yearly
public status and implementation reports.

Now is Hawai'i's moment to ensure that every student in a DOE school receives
the knowledge and skills needed to prevent sexual violence and protect
themselves, and engage parents, guardians, teachers and school staff in building a
system for appropriately responding to childhood sexual violence.

Therefore, we recommend that the Committee pass S.B. 2368 S.D. 2.

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education
Hearing Date/Time: Wed., Mar. 21, 2018, 2:30 p.m.
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 309
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii in Support of H.R. 17 with amendments

Dear Chair Woodson and Members of the Committee,

Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii (“PPVNH”) writes in support of H.R. 17 with amendments. PPVNH supports policies and programs that work to stem the sexual assault epidemic, including education and training on sex abuse prevention. Sexual abuse remains a serious and ongoing threat to the safety, health and wellbeing of children and young people in the State of Hawai‘i.

We respectfully request that the CEO, or the CEO’s designee of our sister organization, Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest and the Hawaiian Islands (“PPGNHI”), and a Board of Education (“BOE”) member be added as members of the task force. PPGNHI and the BOE’s experience working with the Department of Education (“DOE”) to implement a sexual health education program pursuant to BOE policy 103.5 and their knowledge of that program will greatly benefit the task force in its development of a sexual abuse prevention program, as these programs overlap in some areas. For example, Policy 103.5 requires sexual health education programs to help students “develop relationships and communication skills to form healthy relationships that are based on mutual respect and affection and are free from violence, coercion and intimidation.” Please consider including on this task force members who are knowledgeable and experienced with the DOE’s current sexual health education program to ensure that both programs complement each other going forward and better ensure that youth have the skills and tools to keep themselves healthy and safe.

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys in the United States will be sexually abused before they turn 18 years old. This is consistent with our local experience: according to the Sex Abuse Treatment Center, more than half of the many thousands of survivors on Oahu that have historically received services from SATC were younger than 18 years old at the time they were assaulted.

Given the high incidence of sexual abuse perpetrated against minors, it is important that children and young people be taught the knowledge and skills necessary to protect themselves against sexual violence and obtain help to end abuse as quickly as possible. Moreover, it is critical that those who interact the most with children and young people, including parents, other guardians, educators and school staff, receive sufficient training to understand issues of sexual violence and respond appropriately.

Despite these combined efforts, it is our understanding that implementation of sexual abuse prevention education is not consistent system wide, and resources for the provision of training and education are limited. Moreover, school administrators can also be hesitant to adopt programs for training and education concerning issues of sexual violence against children. Consequently, students in Hawai‘i may not receive regular, consistent child abuse prevention education, nor are parents informed about child sexual abuse topics. In addition, many school teachers and staff do not receive sufficient training on talking to students about child sexual abuse prevention.

Laws requiring that public school systems implement a program of regular, consistent sexual abuse prevention education for students, teacher and staff training, and parental involvement, have passed in 31 states and the Territory of Guam, and have been introduced in the legislatures of 17 others. These laws and the programs they would create represent a national trend in safety, health and wellbeing education, and are collectively referred to as “Erin’s Law” after Erin Merryn, an Illinois survivor of child sexual abuse who has led the national movement for required programs for child sexual abuse prevention and education.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Sincerely,
Laurie Field
Hawaii Legislative Director

HR-17

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 2:34:26 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/21/2018 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

TESTIMONY

HR-17

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 4:19:13 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/21/2018 2:30:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: