THE SENATE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023 STATE OF HAWAII

S.C.R. NO. 45

MAR 0 7 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP AND ENFORCE NON-SEX-SEGREGATED DRESS CODES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL FORMAL EVENTS.

WHEREAS, in 2021 and 2022, an east Oahu public high school 1 maintained a sex-segregated dress code for formal events, 2 3 including homecoming and graduation, which resulted in a student-written petition condemning the dress code; and 4 5 WHEREAS, the existing sex-segregated dress codes for public 6 school formal events uphold the false notion that sex and gender 7 are the same and enforces negative sex stereotypes; and 8 9 10 WHEREAS, it is argued that the existing public school sexsegregated dress codes violate: 11 12 13 (1) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits in any educational program or activity 14 receiving federal financial assistance discrimination 15 on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity 16 and protects individuals who do not conform to sex 17 18 stereotypes; 19 20 (2) Act 110, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, which prohibits in any educational program or activity receiving state 21 financial assistance discrimination on the basis of 22 23 sex and gender identity and expression; and 24 25 (3) The First Amendment of the United States Constitution 26 Bill of Rights, which protects the right to free expression; and 27 28 29 WHEREAS, the revision of existing sex-segregated dress codes for public school formal events will encourage, rather 30 than condemn, gender expression and facilitate the inclusion of 31 gender nonconforming and transgender students in public school 32 formal events; now, therefore, 33



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1 2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the 3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education 4 5 is urged to develop and enforce non-sex-segregated dress codes for public school formal events that ensure public school formal 6 events are affirming, safe spaces for all students; and 7 8 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, State Student 11 Council, and Honolulu Youth Commission, which is requested to 12 13 send copies of this Concurrent Resolution to other applicable 14 commissions and neighborhood boards. 15 16 17

· OFFERED

