

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 04/13/2023

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 0040, SD1 REQUESTING THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A JUNIOR POLICE PROGRAM AT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HIGH SCHOOLS.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) respectfully offers comments on SCR 40, SD 1.

The Department is committed to providing students with excellent and innovative learning opportunities to pursue higher education and a successful career. The Department appreciates the intent of this resolution providing Farrington High School students exposure to a career in law enforcement by establishing a pilot Junior Police Pilot Program. However, a pilot program would be difficult to initiate and sustain without the expertise and support of the Honolulu Police Department and appropriated funding for the program.

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

SCR-40-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 7:01:28 PM

Testimony for EDN on 4/13/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda Ybanez	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Representatives,

My name is Amanda Ybanez Vice Chair of Neighborhood Board District #15 Kalihi-Palama, for over a decade.

I am reaching out to so that I may show my strong support for the following resolution:

1. SCR40

Explanation and Background:

Being born, raised, live and work in kalihi for over 40 plus years, I've had the pleasure to speak with our community through our socio-economic challenges we face together. Some of which included serious crimes, homelessness, recidivism, mental health and substance abuse in our community.

These are complex social issues, which require a wide array of creative approaches. That brings me to this resolution and its importance to our Kalihi-Palama community, and to the greater portions of Honolulu urban core and beyond.

HPD is considered emergency personnel, and at the same time they are facing a staffing crisis. Myself, community constituents; residence that work, live, are retired and businesses in our community along with those that go to school, desire to feel and be safe.

Thus, I strongly support an HPD academy in coordination with the DOE in our high schools. This career trek will lead to great paying jobs, mentorship and leadership opportunities in our communities, and future careers in law enforcement, corrections, homeland security and other government fields and or public service positions. This reso creatively addresses the staffing shortages that plague every level of our State. Finally, It offers an option to those that will not attend college but wish to support their own community and be involved with shaping its future.

In turn, our children will have a high propensity to grow into leadership roles in their own families, at work, in their educational journey and in our communities.

So I humbly request that this reso is supported and moved forward for our future.

Warm Mahalo,
Amanda Ybanez

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2023

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair
Rep. Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, April 13, 2023
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Conference Room 309
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Res No. SCR 40 SD1

Relating to: REQUESTING THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A JUNIOR POLICE PROGRAM AT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HIGH SCHOOLS.

Position: **STRONG SUPPORT**

SCR 40's intent is to seek creative ways such as expanding the overall pool of quality applicants through a junior police pilot program at high schools starting with Farrington High School located in Kalihi-Palama will have the added community benefits. Youth that has a direction toward being motivated to work hard and engage in the process and avoid situations that can harm their futures.

Furthermore, looking at it from a social psychology standpoint and using Geert Hofstede's viewpoint and theory on cultural dimensions. Hofstede created what is known as the six dimensions of culture. Those that are relevant to this testimony in support of SCR 40 are Power Distance (Index) and individualistic Vs. Collectivism. Having a program like SCR 40 is the intention to create, a reduction in the individualist mindset and reinforce the values of shared goals and a sense of belonging where a person's actions are restrained to the common good of the group and the reflection of their actions have on their team within the pilot program. Furthermore, as for power distance, the proximity that still will have with police and vice should reduce the onset of the "us vs them" mentality, seeing each other more as humans rather than an outside force that just imposes will.

I want to personally thank Vice Chair Amanda Ybanez of the Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood No.15 for working in conjunction with Senator Wadai. She was the "brainchild" behind this Idea and deserves full credit for this piece of legislation. These chronic staffing shortages contribute to lower response times. For example, HPD District 1, which includes Downtown Honolulu, Chinatown, and Kakaako, is staffed at only seventy-seven percent. In our large metropolitan urban center, this is not a situation that the community should tolerate.

With all that said SCR 40 should be passed out of this committee, the combination of the future workforce in constructive roles in society is always a positive direction. Not everyone will go to university and programs like this will allow for there to be more avenues that youth may wish to seek out as possible careers. Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony on this legislation.

Mahalo,

Ken Farm
(Speaking within my personal capacity)