



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. 106 S.D. 2
RELATING TO EDUCATION**

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HOMELESSNESS

Hearing Date: 3/17/2023

Room Number: Conference Room 329 &
Videoconference

1 **Department Testimony:** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of
2 Senate Bill 106 S.D. 2 which changes the weekly Department of Education report on school
3 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases to reporting potential outbreaks and related
4 information in a manner most appropriate to public health and safety, as determined by the
5 Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH).

6 Given widespread availability of COVID-19 vaccine and other mitigation strategies that have
7 proven effective for controlling COVID-19 spread in schools, DOH recognized that the weekly
8 COVID-19 reporting requirement is an administrative burden on schools that provides minimal
9 benefits. The DOH has worked with DOE to establish criteria for reporting of potential outbreaks
10 of COVID-19. These criteria are similar to what DOE reports for flu-like illnesses, with a
11 protocol that existed many years prior to the recent epidemic. DOH and DOE have a long history
12 of collaboration on reporting and responding to potential outbreaks of infectious illness at
13 schools. DOH is committed to continuing this collaboration on any and all protocols necessary to
14 ensure public health and safety.



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

Date: 03/17/2023
Time: 09:00 AM
Location: 329 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Committee: House Health &
Homelessness

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0106, SD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Authorizes the Department of Health to require the Department of Education to report coronavirus disease 2019 potential outbreaks and other related information in a manner most appropriate to public health and safety, as determined by the Department of Health. Repeals the requirement to publish the report on the Department of Education's website. (SD2)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 106, SD 2, which requests changing from a weekly Department report on school Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) to reporting potential outbreaks and related information in a manner most appropriate to public health and safety, as determined by the Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH).

Given the prevalence of the COVID-19 vaccine and the mitigation strategies that have proven effective, the weekly COVID-19 reporting requirement is an administrative burden on schools that is yielding minimal benefits. The DOH still has a criteria for reporting a potential outbreak of COVID-19 similar to what is done for flu-like illnesses, with a protocol that existed many years prior to the recent epidemic.

The Department has a long history of collaboration with the DOH on reporting and responding to potential outbreaks of infectious illness at schools and is committed to continuing this collaboration on any and all protocols necessary to ensure public health and safety.

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



SB106 SD2
RELATING TO EDUCATION
House Committee on Health & Homelessness

March 17, 2023

9:00 AM

Room 329

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS SB106 SD2**, which would authorize the Department of Health to require the Department of Education to report Coronavirus disease case counts and other related information in a manner most appropriate to public health and safety, as determined by the Department of Health.

OHA works to improve the wellbeing of our Native Hawaiian beneficiaries, who may be experiencing or at risk of experiencing disparate COVID-19 impacts and believes that this bill will help to inform COVID-19 response and recovery efforts that can best ensure the safety of Native Hawaiian and other students, as well as their families and school staff. Accordingly, this measure would continue to provide the information needed to protect the community from transmission of the Coronavirus.

Although improvements have been made over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic here in Hawai‘i, with regard to the timeliness and granularity of reported data, significant uncertainties still exist. With new COVID-19 variants present and arriving in Hawai‘i, and with ongoing uncertainties regarding the effectiveness of current vaccines in preventing COVID-19 transmission, consistent, timely, and accurate data remains just as critical as it has been throughout this pandemic. This measure will help to provide accurate data necessary to ensure the success of our COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. The Department of Health is the most appropriate agency to determine what information is needed and when to provide it in order to ensure the health and safety of our keiki and Department of Education Staff.

OHA appreciates the opportunity to support this measure and respectfully asks that the Committee **PASS** SB106 SD2. Mahalo nui loa.

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 12:05:55 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Pcola_Davis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Suggested change:

The DOH will continue to require the DOE to report COVID case counts and related information weekly and post on the DOE website and continue to use the same format.

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 3:58:18 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michdelle Melendez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

From the beginning keiki have been the least likely to get this “virus” and extremely unlikely to die from it. The fear behind this needs to STOP!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 5:53:29 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
alison hamman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this!

our children are the least likely to get C – 19.

please follow the science this is an unnecessary and overreaching bill

I stand opposed as well as every single parent that I know in Hawaii

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 6:52:01 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joanna Weber	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

please, OPPOSE SB 106.

MAHALO, JOANNA WEBER

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 8:10:17 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rita Wong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB106

Keiki have been the least likely to get this "virus" & unlikely to die from it. The fear behind this needs to STOP

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 8:34:10 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tania victorine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HEALTHY keiki have been the least likely to be affected by this virus that has never been proven. Reporting unnecessary "outbreaks" will cause more confusion and anxiety to our future generations and can potentially lead to more suicides and depression amongst our more vulnerable children. Please don't play head games with them.

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 9:14:48 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
juhl rayne	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

From the beginning keiki have been the least likely to get this “virus” and extremely unlikely to die from it. The fear behind this needs to STOP! it is OVER... never really even was.... the "shots" are killing people and masks are very unhealthy.... can you not see what is going on? why are you trying to kill and scare people....

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 9:30:18 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mane Futo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is one of the reasons why parents are homeschooling more! Parents DO NOT want to co-parent with the schools or government. STOP the MADNESS!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 6:54:16 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Martins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

More coronavirus taskforces are not needed. This is way too much. People need to take care of their health and the government needs to focus on supporting people to lively healthy lives, pay them fair wages so they can take care of their families. Not more beaurocratic task forces.

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 7:46:18 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
noela von	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose. Thank you.

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 10:13:27 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey Willard-Mack	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

From the beginning children have been the least likely to get this “virus” and extremely unlikely to die from it. This bill is unnecessary, potentially harmful to families, and unconstitutional.

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 10:20:31 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Owl	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to stop crafting bills that continue to perpetuate unwarranted fear around Coronavirus 2019 in the schools, and instead propose to delete or dissolve or deactivate all bills written for Coronavirus 2019 case reporting in the schools. Statistics prove beyond a doubt that children are the least likely to contract COVID-19. The measures taken in 2019-2021 for schools around COVID-19 were harmful to our children. These all need to be dissolved.

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 10:26:46 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa S. Chang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is unconstitutional. It must not be passed!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 11:12:59 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Klahr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose SB106 SD2

SB106 SD2 Provides the Health department unconstitutional authority. The role of government is to alert in these matters and for the people to act.

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 11:19:49 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adrienne Hew	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is simply dumb. You can't keep playing the Covid card -- especially with our keiki, who were never at risk from dying (except possibly in cases of obesity). If you really want to improve children's health and the wider community, then end the mandate that deprives schools of funding if they don't feed them govt subsidized garbage and allowing local farms to supply food to schools instead.

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 1:07:30 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Annie U.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

From the beginning keiki have been the least likely to get this “virus” and extremely unlikely to die from it. The fear behind this needs to STOP!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 1:09:28 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karri Teshima	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why is Department of health wants to report on corona potential outbreaks it's a proven fact the PCR test are not reliable this madness needs to end especially when kids are the least likely to get it. The fear mongering needs to stop. The numbers never constituted an emergency and the state should've never been shut down under any circumstances this all needs to stop

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 2:05:59 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

From the beginning keiki have been the least likely to get this “virus” and extremely unlikely to die from it. The fear behind this needs to STOP!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 2:38:31 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teresa Lyons	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The government continues to lie about a virus that is virtually non-existent among children. The lies need to STOP. Fear mongering NEEDS TO STOP!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 3:24:44 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paula Blum	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Quit sticking expermental drugs into the arms of our islands precious Keiki!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 7:19:22 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marlies Lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

Marlies Lee

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 10:27:49 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Meheula	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Data on covid is out, children are not affected by it. Enough with this covid nonsense. Early treatment is available and these dangerous vaccines do not stop the transmission!! enough!!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 11:09:38 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mr. & Mrs. O'Neill	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB 106

From the beginning keiki have been the least likely to get this “virus” and extremely unlikely to die from it. The fear behind this needs to STOP! No one is sick. Even the Federal Government said it is time to stop all Covid realted things.

Stop this insanity !!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2023 7:41:16 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lei Tata	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE this bill.

From the beginning, keiki have been the least likely to get this "virus" and extremely unlikely to die from it. The fear mongering behind this needs to STOP!!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2023 1:56:24 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Miho Aoki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppse this bill because this coronavirus never been in danger for keiki, nor healthy people.

From the beginning keiki have been the least likely to get this “virus” and extremely unlikely to die from it. The fear behind this needs to STOP!

SB-106-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2023 9:42:02 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/17/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mabelle Bastien	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

From the beginning keiki have been the least likely to get this “virus” and extremely unlikely to die from it. The fear behind this needs to STOP!