



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:
S.B. NO. 2611, RELATING TO SCHOOLS.

BEFORE THE:
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

DATE: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 **TIME:** 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Mark S. Tom, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) provides the following comments on this bill.

The purposes of this bill are to include weekends and school holidays as times when a reasonable warning or request to leave school premises is not required for a person to commit the offense of Criminal Trespass in the First Degree, and to specify that for the offense of Criminal Trespass in the First Degree, a reasonable warning or request to leave school premises includes a written lifetime prohibition against the person entering the premises.

The Department appreciates the intent to provide broader enforcement on any public or private school premises. However, section 708-813, Hawaii Revised Statutes, already broadly covers the requirement of a "reasonable warning or request", which includes scenarios that involve lifetime prohibitions served on an individual by school officials. The proposed amendments outlining specific written warning requirements will create unnecessary obstacles to holding offenders accountable by requiring additional elements such as proving the lifetime prohibition was "reasonably necessary to ensure the safety and security of students and employees", which is not currently required, or requiring a written notice that is not currently in the statute. Therefore, instead of the additional wording added to section 708-813(1)(c), in section 2 on page 2, line 19, to page 4, line 14, including four new subparagraphs, the Department suggests the

following amendments to section 708-813(1)(c), which will accomplish the bill's purpose without creating confusion or enforcement obstacles:

(c) That person enters or remains unlawfully in or upon the premises of any public school as defined in section 302A-101, or any private school, after reasonable warning or request to leave by school authorities or a police officer; provided ~~[however, such]~~ that the warning or request to leave shall be unnecessary between 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. and on weekends and school holidays.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the bill.



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

Date: 02/11/2026

Time: 01:30 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: EDU

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB2611, RELATING TO SCHOOLS.

Purpose of Bill: Includes weekends and holidays as times where a reasonable warning or request to leave school premises is not required for a person to commit the offense of criminal trespass in the first degree. Specifies that, for the offense of criminal trespass in the first degree, a reasonable warning or request to leave school premises includes a written lifetime prohibition against the person entering the premises.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 2611, as it allows the Department to have the power to deter violent misconduct on school premises with harsher penalties, including by issuing a lifetime ban for egregious offenders.

The Department's top priorities are to maintain a safe and secure learning and working environment for all students and staff. The bill empowers school administrators to issue a written lifetime prohibition against individuals whose presence is deemed reasonably necessary to restrict for the safety and security of the campus. It also eliminates the requirement for a specific warning or request to leave on weekends and school holidays, streamlining the ability of law enforcement to address unauthorized presence during these times. The bill categorizes violations of lifetime bans as criminal trespass in the first degree (a misdemeanor) as well as provides harsher penalties to deter aggression and ensure a stable environment for student success.

Additionally, SB 2611 specifies the exact information required for a valid written warning such as legal names, physical descriptions, and witness signature ensuring that bans are legally enforceable and standardized. Lastly, the bill aligns with broader efforts to combat increasing instances of harassment and violence against educational workers and sports officials in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on SB 2611.



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TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAI'I SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Item: SB 2611 – Relating to Schools

Position: Support

Hearing: Wednesday, February 11, 2026, 1:30 pm, Room 229

Submitter: Osa Tui, Jr., President - Hawai'i State Teachers Association

Dear Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association (HSTA) **supports** S.B. 2611, which strengthens the safety and security of our school communities. The safety of educators, students, and all public school employees is a top priority for HSTA. When individuals on campus feel their personal security is at risk, the entire educational environment is jeopardized, undermining the stability required for student success.

By clarifying trespass laws and establishing a formal process for lifetime prohibitions against egregious offenders, this measure provides the necessary tools to deter misconduct and protect our schools. Ensuring that our campuses remain a safe sanctuary for everyone is essential to maintaining a productive learning environment for all of Hawai'i's keiki.

We respectfully urge the committee to pass this measure.

Mahalo.

SB-2611

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:15:33 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/11/2026 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Estrella S Marin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Estrella Marin and I live here on Oahu. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB2611 to prohibit algorithmic price setting for our rental market. It is well known that Hawaii has exorbitant rental prices, which put working people families and locals under extreme pressure to make rent. You have disabled veterans, and elderly people on fixed incomes that can not even compete with anything remotely if algorithmic pricing is allowed. All people should be allowed to live and have options that allow them to be safe in their place of living. Pricing people into unsafe neighborhoods and perpetually the wealthy gap and reinforcing a caste system with rentals is not the aloha way.