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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**RE: AGENDA ITEM V, A, BOARD ACTION ON HUMAN RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING BOARD POLICY 900-  
1, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION APPLICANT AND EMPLOYEE NON-  
DISCRIMINATION**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2017**

**COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Chair Mizumoto and Members of the Committee:

HSTA supports the approval of revised Board of Education Policy 900-1, regarding Department of Education applicant and employee non-discrimination.

Over the past several decades, our understanding of protected classes has been expanded to include veterans under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974 and Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, gender identity and expression following the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's interpretation of the term "sex" in federal equal pay and civil rights laws, genetic information under the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and pregnancy pursuant to the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978.

Surviving domestic or sexual violence is also increasingly accepted as justification for seeking additional protection from harassment and discrimination, particularly when such violence is workplace related. In 2011, Hawai'i lawmakers enacted Act 206, which prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of domestic or sexual violence and requires employers to make reasonable accommodations for victims of abuse. Shortly after its passage, the law was hailed by the anti-domestic violence

organization Futures Without Violence as one of the most stringent and supportive in the nation. Education leaders have a responsibility, in turn, to ensure that board policies are equally compassionate toward the 50,000 women between the ages of 18 and 64 who are victims of domestic violence each year in our state, as well as the 50 percent of American women and 20 percent of American men who have suffered some form of sexual violence, according to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Preventing employment discrimination is paramount to maintaining a just and harmonious workplace. To secure equal rights and opportunities for all educational employees, we ask you to **support** adoption of revised BOE Policy 900-1.



**Testimony to the Board of Education  
General Meeting  
Tuesday, August 1, 2017; 1:30 p.m.  
Queen Liliuokalani Building  
1390 Miller Street, Room 404**

**RE: COMMENTS ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT ON PRESENTATION ON SCHOOL HEALTH SECTION AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Chair Mizumoto, Vice Chair De Lima, and Members of the Board of Education:

My name is Robert Hirokawa and I am the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA appreciates this opportunity to **COMMENT** on the Student Achievement Committee Report on the presentation on school health section and services provided by the Department of Education. (DOE).

At the outset, the HPCA wishes to thank the DOE for including us in the ongoing discussions to establish school-based health services. Our mission is to promote and improve the quality of primary health care for all of Hawaii's communities. The HPCA is committed to this cause and welcomes all opportunities to partner with stakeholders toward that goal.

Over the past year, the HPCA has reached out to the DOE, the University of Hawaii School of Nursing, and all other stakeholders on school-based health care services. We understand that the logistics and design of such a system will be complex and that to be successful, consensus among all of the stakeholders must be achieved. Only in this way will we ensure that limited resources are not wasted, and that the best quality of care will be provided to our people.

We applaud the efforts by the DOE to improve school-related health services. However, the HPCA is concerned that efforts by the DOE may unintentionally and inadvertently conflict with existing efforts to establish school-based health centers at certain public schools situated near existing Community Health Center facilities. These school-based health centers currently provide a comprehensive array of primary care services to their school's students.

**Testimony to the Board of Education**

**August 1, 2017; 1:30 p.m.**

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Both Koolauloa Health Center and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center have worked with the DOE to establish school-based clinics at public schools situated near their facilities. Other Community Health Centers have examined their models and are currently considering entering into agreements with the DOE to create similar programs at nearby schools.

**In your efforts to provide baseline primary health care services to all school-aged youth, we respectfully urge you not to take any steps that may duplicate existing services, diminish the level of services that are currently provided, or preclude the establishment of more intensive and comprehensive services at public schools.**

As mentioned earlier, HPCA is merely commenting on this presentation. We are partners with the entire community and want to work with all parties for what is best for our citizens.

In advance, thank you for your consideration of our request.