



## Honolulu County Republican Party

725 Kapiolani Blvd, C-105

Honolulu, HI 96813

February 12, 2018

Senate Committee on Education & Senate Committee on Human Services  
Conference Room 229  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Opposition to SB-2323 Education; Home Schooling; Notification of Intent to Home School; Child Abuse or Neglect; Background Check; Child Welfare Services.

Dear Chair Kidani, Chair Green, Vice Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

The Honolulu County Republican Party **STRONGLY OPPOSES** SB-2323.

Hawaii Republicans believe that citizens thrive when they have ready access to high quality education, and that Government should respect the role of parents and legal guardians, who have a critical and vested interest in the educational process of their children. A government that governs least, governs best and our citizens must be free to pursue their own happiness with limited government interference.

SB-2323 is nothing more than an obvious attempt to circumvent parental rights, by inserting the Hawaii Department of Education's unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats into the home schooling network.

SB-2323 would most certainly have horrific effects on a parent's right and freedom to home school. Allowing a public-school superintendent (who is normally pro-public school) decide whether a parent is suitable to home school and subjecting them to an intrusive inquiry and background check by Child Protective Services, is an overreach of government authority.

SB-2323 inaccurately uses the story about Peter Boy as a basis for passage. Anyone who has monitored this case over the years, knows Peter Boy was not a home schooler. But, across the State everyone was appalled when they found out that state authorities, who were aware of the abuse to Peter Boy, in fact returned him to the abusive home. However, this has absolutely nothing to do with home schooling.

Child abuse is horrifying. However, there is no evidence that suggests that home schooled children are at a higher risk of abuse solely because they are home schooled, or that any of the intrusive requirements proposed in SB-2323 would actually prevent child abuse from occurring in a home school.

Never before have Hawaii families been put under such scrutiny while trying to educate their own children. Don't punish good parents now by falsely using the Peter Boy tragedy as a reason to subject them to oversight from public school superintendents or the scrutiny of Child Protective Services. Do not pass SB-2323!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brett Kulbis". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Brett Kulbis  
Chairman  
Honolulu County Republican Party