



HAWAII

Hawaii received \$1,147,826 in federal funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in Fiscal Year 2005.¹

Hawaii Sexuality Education Law and Policy

Hawaii Education Policy states that, “in order to help students make decisions that promote healthy behaviors, the Department of Education shall instruct students that abstention from sexual intercourse is the surest and most responsible way to prevent unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases [STDs] such as HIV/AIDS, and consequent emotional distress.” The policy specifies that programs shall help students remain abstinent, help currently sexually active students become abstinent, and “provide youth with information on and skill development in the use of protective devices and methods for the purpose of preventing sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy.”

Hawaii’s *Health Content Standards* also states that sexual health should be addressed and tells schools which content areas are to be addressed, but does not give curricula guidelines or suggest curricula and does not go into detail as to what should be discussed. Hawaii Education Policy requires that students complete a half credit in health education for graduation in elementary, middle, and high school. This does not have to include sexuality education.

Hawaii does not require parental permission for students to participate in sexuality or HIV/AIDS education nor does it say whether parents or guardians can remove their children from such classes.

See Hawaii Board of Education Policies 2100 and 2110.

Recent Legislation

Medical Accuracy Legislation Introduced

Introduced in January 2006, House Bill 2079 and Senate Bill 2172 would require “any recipient of state funding that provides information or offers programs regarding sex, family planning, pregnancy counseling, or sexually transmitted diseases” to provide medically and factually accurate information that is age appropriate. Recipients would also be required to teach about both abstinence and contraception. These bills define both factual information and medically accurate. These bills vary slightly from HB 236 and SB 943, which were introduced in January 2005.

HB 2079 has passed out of the Committee on Health and the Committee on the Judiciary; it now resides in the House Committee on Finance. SB 2172 was assigned to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services.

Resolution Supports Updating Health Education Content and Standards

Senate Concurrent Resolution 89, introduced in March 2005 and referred to the Senate Committee on Education and Military Affairs as well as the Senate Committee on Health, expresses support for the revision of Hawaii's health education content and performance standards in middle and high schools. This resolution requests that the Department of Education in conjunction with the Department of Health review and revise these standards.

Medical Accuracy Legislation Introduced

House Bill 236 and Senate Bill 483, introduced in January 2005, would require any recipient of state funding that provides sex education, family planning information, pregnancy counseling, or information about STDs to use medically accurate, factually based information. According to HB 236 and SB 483, this must include information about abstinence and contraception. The bills define medical accuracy as "verified or supported by research conducted in compliance with scientific methods and published in peer-reviewed journals, where appropriate, and recognized as accurate and objective by professional organizations and agencies with expertise in the relevant fields, such as the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists." These bills vary slightly from HB 2079 and SB 2172, which were introduced in 2006.

Since its introduction, HB 236 has been passed by the House and sent to the Senate, where it currently resides in the Senate Committee on Health and the Senate Committee on Education and Military Affairs. SB 2172 was initially assigned to and still resides in the Senate Committee on Health and the Senate Committee on Education and Military Affairs.

Bills Would Expand School Health Services

Introduced in January 2005, House Bill 1003 and Senate Bill 1517 would provide for the planning and start-up of comprehensive school health services with an emphasis on school-based health centers. As part of this, schools may develop "health education, including medically accurate, factually based sex education." These projects could not "promote, provide, or provide referrals to abortions or abortion-related services." Both bills also include money for evaluation of the effectiveness of the school-based health programs.

Since its introduction, HB 1003 has passed the House Committee on Human Services, the House Committee on Health, and the House Committee on Education. SB 1517 is currently in the Senate Committee on Education and Military Affairs as well as the Senate Committee on Health.

In addition, four separate resolutions, House Resolutions 23 and 26 as well as Senate Resolutions 6 and 9, express support for the aforementioned bill.

Events of Note*Schools Decide to Show Film on Tolerance**Maui, HI; June 2005*

In June 2005, administrators at the King Kekaulike High School addressed some complaints from parents over their plan to show *It's Elementary*, a film that teaches tolerance towards lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning individuals. The parents explained that the film would only present the view that homosexuality is an acceptable lifestyle with which the

parents disagree. They recommended that the school also show *I Do Exist*, a film featuring a man who claims to have changed his sexual orientation from gay to straight. The film was written and produced by Warren Throckmorton, a “reparative therapist” with a degree from the conservative Grove City College (PA) and connections to the “ex-gay” movement. Despite the complaints, the school decided to show the *It’s Elementary* without the accompanying “ex-gay” film.²

Hawaii’s Youth: Statistical Information of Note³

- In 2005, 38% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students in Hawaii reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 4% of female high school students and 6% of male high school students in Hawaii reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 9% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 8% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students in Hawaii reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 17% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 29% of female high school students and 19% of male high school students in Hawaii reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 44% of females and 53% of males in Hawaii reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 56% of females and 70% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 14% of females and 11% of males in Hawaii reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 15% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 21% of females and 27% of males in Hawaii reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, 83% of high school students in Hawaii reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.

- In 2000, Hawaii’s abortion rate was 34 per 1,000 women ages 15–19 compared to a teen abortion rate of 24 per 1,000 nationwide.⁴
- In 2002, Hawaii’s birth rate was 38 per 1,000 women ages 15–19 compared to a teen birth rate of 43 per 1,000 nationwide.⁵

Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding

Hawaii received \$162,787 in federal Title V funds in Fiscal Year 2005. The Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage grant requires states to provide three state-raised dollars or the equivalent in services for every four federal dollars received. The state match may be provided in part or in full by local groups. Hawaii matches the federal money with \$156,082 in state funding. The Hawaii Department of Health oversees this funding.

The Hawaii Department of Health gives one grant to the Boys and Girls Club of Honolulu, which implements the *Smart Moves* program in four sites. Each site has a community advisory board that is linked with a Lavlima, community advisory boards that work on teen pregnancy and adolescent wellness.

The Hawaii Department of Health grant has four goals:

- To promote health through appropriate education and life skills trainings;
- To improve or enhance personal growth through self-esteem building and pro-social activities;
- To increase peer (13 to 17 year olds) and adult involvement in program planning and implementation; and
- To increase parent and community awareness and support of the needs of youth.

The *Smart Moves* program emphasizes two points of the eight-point federal definition of “abstinence education.” The program:

- Teaches young people how to reject sexual advances and how alcohol and drug use increase vulnerability to sexual advances, and
- Teaches the importance of attaining self-sufficiency before engaging in sexual activity.

The Boys and Girls Club of Honolulu targets young people ages 9–12. Parents and adults also participate in activities. Young people ages 13–17 are involved in the program as peer mentors. The program uses the *Smart Moves* curriculum to encourage youth to abstain from risk-taking behavior. Classes are held in after-school or community-based settings as Hawaii’s sexuality education law requires in-school programs to have an abstinence-based, not an abstinence-only-until-marriage focus.

The *Smart Moves* program will be evaluated for both process and outcome. The evaluation will examine sexual intercourse rates, attitudes about abstinence, STD rates, teen pregnancy rates, and birth rates among 15–17 year olds. The University of Hawaii receives \$18,000 per year to continue its work on the evaluation.

Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE)⁶ and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees

There are two CBAE grantees in Hawaii: Catholic Charities of Honolulu and Maui Youth and Family Services. There are no AFLA grantees in Hawaii.

Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs in FY 2005

Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee	Amount of Grant	Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, and AFLA)
Length of Grant Hawaii Department of Health www.state.hi.us/health	\$162,787 federal \$156,082 state	Title V
Boys and Girls Club of Honolulu www.bgch.com/programs-health.htm	\$135,004	Title V sub-grantee
University of Hawaii www.hawaii.edu	\$18,000	Title V sub-grantee
Catholic Charities of Honolulu 2003–2006 www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org	\$735,032	CBAE
Maui Youth and Family Services 2005–2008 www.myfs.org	\$250,007	CBAE

Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Coordinator

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Hawaii Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Hawaii American Civil Liberties Union
PO Box 3410
Honolulu, HI 96801
Phone: (808) 522-5900
www.acluhawaii.org

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii
1350 S. King St., Suite 310
Honolulu, HI 96814
Phone: (808) 589-1156
www.plannedparenthoodhawaii.org

Hawaii Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Hawaii Christian Coalition
1336 Dillingham Blvd., #H
Honolulu, HI 96817
Phone: (808) 842-0707
www.hi-christian.com

Hawaii Family Forum
6301 Pali Highway
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Phone: (808) 230-2100
www.hawaiifamilyforum.org

Hawaii Right to Life Inc.
1019 University Ave., #7B
Honolulu, HI 96826
Phone: (808) 943-1595
www.hrtl.org

Newspapers in Hawaii

The Garden Island
Assignment Editor
3137 Kuhio Hwy.
Lihue, HI 96766
Phone: (808) 245-3681

Hawaii Hochi
Assignment Editor
917 Kokea St.
Honolulu, HI 96817
Phone: (808) 845-2255

Honolulu Advertiser
Robbie Dingeman
Health & Medicine Editor
PO Box 3110
Honolulu, HI 96802
Phone: (808) 535-2429

Honolulu Star-Bulletin
Helen Altonn
Health & Medicine Reporter
500 Ala Moana Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 529-4761

The Maui News
Illima Loomis
Community News Reporter
100 Mahalani St.
Wailuku, HI 96793
Phone: (808) 244-3981

Tribune-Herald
Education Editor
355 Kinoole St.
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West Hawaii Today
Colleen Marshall
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75-5580 Kuakini Hwy.
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¹ This refers to the fiscal year for the Federal Government, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The fiscal year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends; for example, Fiscal Year 2005 begins on October 1, 2004 and ends on September 30, 2005.

² Jim Brown, "Hawaii Parents Protest School's Plan to Show Pro-Homosexual Video to Kids," *Agape Press*, 3 June 2005, accessed 6 June 2005, <<http://headlines.agapepress.org/archive/6/32005c.asp>>.

³ Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2005," *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 55, no. SS-5 (9 June 2006): 1-108, accessed 8 June 2006, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>.

⁴ *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics: Overall Trends, Trends by Race and Ethnicity and State-by-State Information* (New York: Guttmacher Institute, February 2004), accessed 28 January 2005 <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/state_pregnancy_trends.pdf>.

⁵ *National Vital Statistics Reports 52.10* (Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, 2003), 48, accessed 4 February 2005, <<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/births.htm#stat%20tables>>.

⁶ In Fiscal Year 2004 SPRANS–CBAE was administered within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. In Fiscal Year 2005 this funding stream was moved to HHS' Administration for Children and Families and is now referred to simply as Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE).