



Resolution Requesting the State Department of Education Safeguard Online Databases Used in Our Schools

Whereas our children are our greatest assets and the future of our State, but in recent years they have been exploited through the misuse of high tech such as the internet and smartphone devices;

Whereas the “new classrooms” of today are also online research databases owned by large multinational organizations that control information and the narrative for social change;

Whereas these online research databases are used and heavily relied upon by K-12 schools across the United States and two of them, EBSCO and Gale, are used by Hawai'i's schools;

Whereas hard evidence has shown that these databases have been infiltrated by the porn industry's marketing platform, leading to marketing and legislative efforts by eight states (Colorado, Idaho, Indiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, and Utah) to clean up their databases;

Whereas there are already federal laws protecting our children from online obscenity, such as the Children's Internet Protection Act (“CIPA”), the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (“RICO Act” whose racketeering activity definition includes dealing with obscene matter), [18 U.S.C. §147](#) (prohibits the knowing of interstate transfer of obscene material to a minor) and [18 USC § 2252C](#) (prohibits the knowing embedment of words or digital images into the source code of a website with the intent to deceive a minor into viewing harmful or obscene materials); and

Whereas there are loopholes in these laws due to antiquated exemptions for schools and libraries, outdated filtering statutes and new obscene content being included after old content is deleted; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Hawai'i Republican Party, in virtual convention on May 15, 2021:

1. to ensure the protection of Hawai'i's school children from pornography easily accessible from the EBSCO and Gale databases, encourages the Hawai'i State legislature to create a task force that will:
 - a. ensure that Hawai'i is in compliance with the federal laws mentioned in this resolution that protect our children;

725 KAPIOLANI BLVD. #C-105, HONOLULU HI 96813 · (808) 593-8180 · INFO@GOPHAWAII.COM
WWW.GOPHAWAII.COM

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- b. ensure the best practical way to guarantee Hawai'i's education system does not fall victim to the loopholes mentioned in this resolution;
 - c. ensure the online databases used by our children in grades K-12 are secured and free from any form of obscenity;
 - d. include concerned parents who are well versed in the database online issue;
 - e. make recommendations to the general public by the end of 2022; and
2. will post copies of this resolution on the Hawai'i Republican Party website and transmit copies to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lieutenant Governor, members of the Hawai'i State Legislature, and the Mayors of each County.