

Submitter: Donna Bleiler  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure: HB4091

I strongly oppose HB 4091.

In 2019 the legislature passed the Student Success Act. Since that time they have segregated students by color, race, native Americans, and sexual orientation with specific programs to be exclusive rather than inclusive. Now they want to add Pacific Islanders evaluating their disparities just based on their race. This narrow approach is lowering standards and expectations for students who may be struggling instead of helping them succeed in the adult world that operates on equality, not equity. This bill directs ODE to develop an advisory committee for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders who will then assist ODE to develop and implement a plan for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander student with statewide success initiatives.

Additionally, this bill requires that ODE identify additional racial and ethnic subgroups including multiracial categories, to collect relevant data, including data on student discipline and academic outcomes. American is called a melting pot for a reason, we all are a mix of races and ethnic origin. Does this tracking our DNA, gender identity and sexual orientation help unify or by the end, well we all be segregated yielding to more racism and discrimination?