

## Formal Complaint

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

To: DOE Civil Rights Compliance Branch, **Title VI Specialist**, Aaron Oandasan  
808-586-3322 CRCB@k12.hi.us

Complex Area \_\_\_\_\_ Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_

Principal \_\_\_\_\_ of School \_\_\_\_\_

Pursuant to the Department of Education Hawaii Administrative Rules, Chapter 8-89-6, governing Civil Rights Policy and Complaint Procedure, this letter is hereby a formal written complaint for allegations of harassment, bullying and discrimination against my child/ren who is/ are a student(s) at

\_\_\_\_\_.

On \_\_\_\_\_ we did submit to this school's administrative office a letter of notification that my child/ren are invoking our First Amendment Right to refrain from wearing masks for religious reasons. The covering of one's face, particularly in light of no known scientific, nor medical necessity of such practice is an affront to our religious beliefs.

The Centers For Disease Control (CDC) has advised that indoor masking is no longer necessary in areas where case counts for Covid-19 remain at low to moderate levels, such as is the case for the state of Hawaii.

The CDC has also stated, "We know that also because children are relatively at lower risk from severe illness that schools can be safe places for children. And so for that reason, we're recommending that schools use the same guidance that we are recommending in general community settings, which is that we're

recommending people where a mask in high levels of COVID-19 risk,” said Dr. Greta Massetti, a senior CDC official.<sup>1</sup>

Additionally, the Governor of the state of Hawaii has allowed all emergency orders to expire effective March 26, 2022, including all mask mandates, therefore removing any legal authority for the imposition of such a regulation in our public schools.

There is no other way to describe the continued mask rule for children in school settings except for it being a cult-like ritual and political symbol. This is in violation of my child’s constitutionally protected right to freedom of religion.

**First Amendment of the United States Constitution:**

*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.*

**Article 1 Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution:**

*No law shall be enacted respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.*

Because my child’s notice of invocation of a religious exemption has been wholly ignored, denied or otherwise rejected and my child has instead been subjected to segregation, bullying, harassment and lack of equal access to public spaces and public education for his/her inability to wear a mask I am hereby submitting this formal complaint for investigation into these matters.

---

1

<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/cdc-eases-masking-recommendations-70-country-including-inside/story?id=83111596>

For Our Rights Formal Complaint to DOE Civil Rights Compliance Branch

Forourrights.org - A Non-Profit Organization

UnmaskOurKeiki.org

The aforementioned violations are punishable under federal laws established under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion as noted under HAR Section 8-89-2(3).

The particularity of the acts of discrimination are as follows:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of or description of offender:

\_\_\_\_\_

Factual details of actions of the offender in response to my child's protected status (refusal to wear a mask) and the details of the injury (segregated/humiliated/suspended etc)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

We are requesting immediate intervention by the principal of my child/ren's school, which is allowable under HAR 8-89-6(e) and failure to intervene may result in separate violations and further investigations under this sub section.

Your prompt and immediate attention to this matter is requested to avoid further action in a court of law.

Sincerely,

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian/Guardian/Power of Attorney for minor child/ren: