

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

<b>As of:</b> 7/18/22 2:44 PM
<b>Received:</b> May 09, 2022
<b>Status:</b> Posted
<b>Posted:</b> May 10, 2022
<b>Tracking No.</b> 12z-izmt-wgpw
<b>Comments Due:</b> June 08, 2022
<b>Submission Type:</b> Web

**Docket:** CDC-2022-0048

Promoting Adolescent Health through School-Based HIV Prevention

**Comment On:** CDC-2022-0048-0001

Promoting Adolescent Health through School-Based HIV Prevention 2022-07522

**Document:** CDC-2022-0048-0004

Comment from Stalter, O'Livia

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## General Comment

As a college student myself, I have witnessed firsthand the need for increased education and resources to prevent the spread of STIs, adolescents and young adults. Subsequently, action must be taken to reduce the rate of transmission of HIV.

I agree that schools (high schools, especially) are a perfect setup for distributing critical health information to individuals from all backgrounds. However, there is a possibility that this health information could be taught inconsistently or incompletely, such as been the case with sexual health education and its variance across the United States (Scuzs et al., 2022). Topics such as sexual abstinence, condom use, and pathology and transmission of HIV are taught with highly varied success to the student body, across the country (Soe et al., 2018).

Perhaps, this target audience is correct, but the method of delivery (or assurance of quality of delivery, rather) is the issue. From the surface, a petition for implementation of further data collection to promote high-quality delivery of this information, sounds like a sound argument. However, I was left with several questions after reviewing the literature.

1. What parameters are included in this data collection? How is the data being collected?

2. Why was an extension for data collection needed/issued?

The literature was effective in stressing the need for an increase in high-quality sexual health education services for adolescents and young adults. I understand a petition for extended length of data collection. As a student reading this petition, I am searching for an increased understanding of what this collection looks like and why additional time is needed. A simple inclusion of this information would further educate the audience and bolster the argument in favor of a time extension.

### References

Soe, N., Bird, Y., Schwandt, M., & Moraros, J. (2018). STI health disparities: A systematic review and meta-analysis of the effectiveness of preventive interventions in educational settings. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 15(12), 2819.

Szucs, L. E., Barrios, L. C., Young, E., Robin, L., Hunt, P., & Jayne, P. E. (2022). The CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health Approach to Sexual Health Education in Schools: 3 Decades in Review. *Journal of School Health*, 92(2), 223-234.