

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2008

RE: S.B. No. 2697
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred S.B.
No. 2697 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PHYSICAL EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of
Education to implement physical education instruction for grades
kindergarten through eight.

This measure also:

- (1) Allows credit to be granted for certain athletic and
co-curricular activities;
- (2) Provides for the recruitment of licensed physical
education teachers; and
- (3) Makes appropriations for the foregoing.

Testimony in support of the measure was submitted by the
Hawaii Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and
Dance and twenty-one individuals. Testimony in opposition of the
measure was submitted by the Department of Education, the American
Heart Association, the Hawaii State Teachers Association, the
Hawaii State Physical Activity and Nutrition Coalition, and twelve
individuals. Comments on the measure were also submitted by
twelve individuals.



Your Committee finds that childhood and adolescent obesity are at an all-time high and can lead to the development of life-long health problems. Your Committee further finds that physical activity can have beneficial effects on one's long-term mental and physical health. Studies have indicated that individuals who lead physically active lives as children are more likely to continue a pattern of physical activity into adulthood and are also associated with having higher levels of academic achievement. This measure ensures appropriate physical education instruction for students in grades kindergarten through six, after-school and summer programs for students, physical education instruction that is in accordance with the National Association for Sports and Physical Education, and the provision of specialized credit for certain approved after-school athletic activities.

Your Committee received testimony regarding concerns and confusion with the possible provision of specialized credit for approved after-school athletic activity and other co-curricular activities. Your Committee believes that our public schools must provide our students with appropriate physical activities and programs that promote a commitment to lifelong physical activity. Many athletic pursuits are endeavors that can teach and promote physical health in areas that students may be able to continue to participate for many years and decades to come, including golf, swimming, and tennis. Such athletic activity should be carefully examined to determine whether there is alignment with current Department of Education standards and the propriety of the eligibility for earning credit. Thus, your Committee determines that in order to clear up any confusion or concerns regarding the provision of specialized credit for certain activities, the Department of Education should examine the greater picture of those activities for which students should earn specialized or elective credits.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:


- (1) Requiring the Department of Education to develop and recommend to the Board of Education a policy for the issuance of specialized credit for participation in after-school athletic activity and other co-curricular activities by school year 2009-2010; and
- (2) Removing language that required participation in after-school athletic activity or other co-curricular activity to be certified by a licensed physical education teacher



as being generally in accordance with the standards established by the Department of Education for physical education instruction in order to be granted specialized credit therefor.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2697, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2697, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Education,



NORMAN SAKAMOTO, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Education
EDU

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2097	Committee Referral: EDU, WAM	Date: 2-13-08
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The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312 Pass, with amendments 2311 Hold 2310 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAKAMOTO, Norman (C)	X			
TOKUDA, Jill N. (VC)	X			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne				X
GABBARD, Mike	X			
HEE, Clayton	X			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	X			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	X			
SLOM, Sam	X			
TOTAL	7	0	0	1

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

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*Only one measure per Record of Votes