



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

**Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education and Senate Committee on Health
March 24, 2008 at 1:15 p.m.**

by
Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
and
Dr. Gary K. Ostrander
Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SCR 94 – URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO BEGIN REBUILDING THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH BY 2012

Chair Sakamoto, Chair Ige, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 94. While we continue to focus efforts on the fiscal stability of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) and the emergence of the Cancer Center project, the commitment of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa toward eventual reemerging for the School of Public Health has not wavered.

In late 2005 we submitted and received from the National Institutes of Health – Centers for Disease Control (NIH-CDC) a planning grant for reopening the University of Hawai'i Asia-Pacific School of Public Health. These funds (nearly 100K) have allowed us to make significant strides in developing a vision for reemergence that meets the needs of our stakeholders as well as develop a business plan to insure financial stability.

As such, the projected time line of 2012 to begin rebuilding is most reasonable and we would respectfully suggest that this effort is already underway. To their credit, the Department of Public Health Sciences also continues to make significant strides toward that goal.

Thank you for your interest in the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Date: 03/24/2008

Committee: Senate Education; Senate Health

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

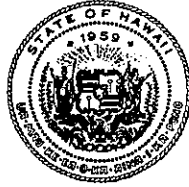
Title of Resolution: SCR 134(SR 070) URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO "BUY LOCAL" TO ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABILITY.

Purpose of Resolution: URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO "BUY LOCAL" TO ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABILITY.

Department's Position: The DOE supports this measure and its underlying principle: sustainability. As a major purchaser of goods and services for our state, we are always happy to do business with local companies. Currently, we proudly partner with scores of local vendors who provide the goods and services that help us to create a safe, positive and stimulating learning environment for the children of our state. The DOE supports this effort to create a prosperous and sustainable future for our island state. To that end, the DOE will, to the maximum extent possible, buy local.

We recommend passage of this measure.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SCR134, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO "BUY LOCAL" TO ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABILITY

Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health

March 24, 2008
1:15PM

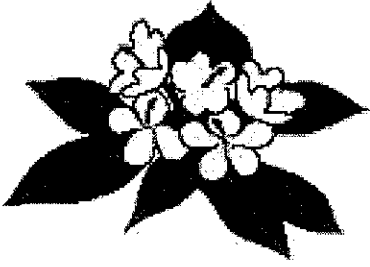
1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health offers comments.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** None

3 **Purpose and Justification:** This concurrent resolution urges the Department of Education and
4 Department of Health to buy locally grown or produced food stuffs and goods.

5 The Department of Health complies with Chapter 103D-1002 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes to
6 purchase Hawaii products. The Department is also aware that the Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapter
7 3-120-4 exempts the purchase of fresh meats and produce from HRS §103D. While the Department is
8 not in the regular business of purchasing large quantities of agricultural products the agency will "buy
9 local" to the maximum extent possible as requested in this measure.

10 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council

919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101

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email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

March 24, 2008

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
EDUCATION and HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HOUSING

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Chair*
Mr. Steve Laracuento, *Vice
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Ms. Jasmine Williams
Mr. Duane Yee
Mr. Wilfred Young

SCR 92 - Urging the Department of Education to ensure recognition of certain rights of parents of children who have been referred for special education services.

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), is confused by the necessity of this resolution. We wish to inform your committees that SEAC, in partnership with the Department of Education and the Special Parent Information Network (SPIN), developed and regularly updates *A Parent's Guide to Partnership in Special Education* (referred to hereafter as the *Guide*).

The *Guide* was designed as a parent-friendly explanation of the special education process, as well as student and parental rights. It compliments the *Procedural Safeguards Notice for Parents and Students under The Individuals With Disabilities Education Act of 2004 and Hawaii Law and Regulations* given to parents of eligible or prospective special education students by the Department at the time of referral and at least once a year thereafter. This *Procedural Safeguards Notice* has been adapted from a model form offered by the Office of Special Education Programs and based on the 2004 IDEA Amendments.

SEAC intends to update its most recent version of the *Guide* (found at <http://www.spinhawaii.org/12.06GUIDE.pdf>) as soon as Chapter 60--the newest set of Hawaii administrative rules regarding IDEA--is adopted and Chapter 56 is repealed.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this issue. Should you have any questions regarding our position, you are welcome to contact me by phone or email.

Sincerely,

Ivalee Sinclair, Chair



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
And
Senate Committee on Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
March 24, 2008 at 1:15 pm
by
John Morton
Vice President for Community Colleges, University of Hawai'i

SCR 192 REQUESTING KAUA'I COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO WORK WITH THE KAUA'I POLICE DEPARTMENT TO EXPLORE THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Chairs Sakamoto, Inouye, Vice Chairs Tokuda, Tsutsui, and Members of the
Committees:

Kaua'i Community College is currently informally exploring ways in which to support the workforce needs of the Kaua'i Police Department as well as closely associated needs of other social service agencies, which assist in situations involving a complexity of social issues, included but not limited to, domestic abuse, elder abuse, child welfare, substance abuse, and school safety. We have already scheduled Fall, 2008 assigned time for a faculty member, who has been in discussion with KPD Chief Perry on this issue.

Kaua'i Community College and the Police Department would focus on the recruitment and retention of those candidates who reside on Kaua'i. The college would develop curriculum appropriate for the Kaua'i Police Department and other social service agencies, which would lead to an appropriate degree.

We are in accord with the objective of supporting candidates seeking to enter the honorable career of law enforcement on Kaua'i. In addition, as a University Center, Kaua'i Community College has both the experience and the resources to call upon our sister campuses, which already offer an associates degree program in Criminal Justice. Such partnering across campuses could speed the delivery process and help keep training affordable. Asynchronous delivery methods might also be useful in making class schedules meet the work schedules of students.

Kaua'i Community College intends to continue its current work with the Kaua'i Police Department and welcomes the interest and support of the Senate.



American Heart Association | American Stroke Association

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Testimony for SCR 32

The American Heart Association offers no position on SCR 32, but seeks to clarify that the intent of the resolution is not to provide physical education credits for participation in extracurricular sports.

Together with other healthy lifestyle choices, such as better nutrition, the American Heart Association strongly advocates for daily, quality physical education in our nation's schools both as an important part of a student's education program and as a way to improve life-long health and well-being, that reduces their risk of developing CVD and other life-threatening diseases.

However, between 1991 and 2003, enrollment of high school students in daily PE classes fell from 41.6% to 28.4%.⁵ Yet, 81% of adults believe daily PE should be mandatory in schools.

PE programs can help combat childhood obesity, especially in young adolescent overweight girls. Studies of school-aged children have shown that just an extra hour of exercise a week lessened obesity. Benefits extend beyond health improvements. Several studies have shown a link between increased physical fitness and academic performance.

It is recommended that children engage in at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day. It is reasonable that they should get at least 30 minutes of that time in school. The national recommendation for PE frequency is 150 minutes/week in elementary school and 225 minutes per week in middle and high school. However, PE continues to be at high risk of being cut or curtailed in the current "No Child Left Behind" climate. The quality of the PE program is also critical. A high-quality PE program enhances the physical, mental, and social/emotional development of every child and helps them understand, improve, and maintain physical well-being.

Classes and activities that provide physical activity (e.g., marching band, ROTC, cheerleading, school and community sports) have important but distinctly different goals than physical education. Any opportunity for students to participate in sustained periods of meaningful physical activity can be valuable for their health and fitness, but these activities do not provide the content of a comprehensive, standards-based physical education program and thus should not be allowed to fulfill a physical education requirement.

The AHA strongly opposes the substitution of other credited courses or activities in lieu of PE classes.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald B. Weisman
Hawaii Communications and Marketing/Government Affairs Director

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For information on the AHA's educational or research programs, contact your nearest AHA office, or visit our web site at www.americanheart.org or e-mail us at hawaii@heart.org

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Phone: 808-245-7311
Fax: 808-246-3631

*"Building healthier lives,
free of cardiovascular
diseases and stroke."*

March 23, 2008

TO: Senate Education Committee
testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

FR: Jeanne Chang (changj648@hawaii.rr.com)
Former Student Activities Coordinator, Kaimuki High School
Former Athletic Director/Physical Education Teacher, St. Andrew's Priory School

RE: Written Testimony Concerning SCR #32
Legislative Hearing on Monday, March 24, 2008, 1:15 pm, Room 225

Senate Concurrent Resolution #32: Requesting that the D.O.E. allow credits for current participation in extracurricular sports for all high school students to encourage physical fitness and mental well-being and support a reduction in obesity amongst high school students.

This testimony is being written in opposition to SCR #32. I would like to repeat my opposition to the idea of giving credit for participation in extracurricular sports as stated in my testimony in regards to SB #2697 (hearing was held on February 11th).

"I am opposed to this proposal (to give specialized credit for participation in after-school athletic activity and other co-curricular activities) at this time because such activities do not adequately address the Hawaii Content Standards of Physical Education.

Unless a formal curriculum for such activities are established to specifically insure that the Hawaii Content Standards of Physical Education are properly implemented and a program to insure that the staff consisting of certified or licensed personnel are in place, physical education credit should not be substituted by co-curricular activities."

While I am appreciative of the fact that the legislators are concerned about physical fitness and reducing obesity amongst high school students, I think further study and research in regards to the ramification of passing such a resolution is needed before considering the passing of such a resolution. Besides my concerns listed above about fulfilling the Hawaii Content Standards and having certified personnel teaching the activity for credit, the committee needs to address the affect of such a bill on the elective program in all high schools in the Department of Education. Students who participate in sports are presently taking elective courses. If participation in athletics is allowed to be substituted for elective credits, it could seriously impact the elective program by having less students choosing to take such classes as band, foreign languages, food service, graphics, business, etc. As it is now, some of the elective programs are already experiencing enrollment problems because students are deciding not to take elective classes once their credit requirements have been met. Several years ago, the French language program at Kaimuki High School was dropped from a lack of sufficient students. It is quite possible that more elective courses which are presently being taught by certified teachers, may have to be dropped if students are allowed to use athletic participation as a source of credit.

It agree that we need to address the physical fitness and obesity problems, but let us not ignore the effects it will have on other parts of the over-all school program. I urge the education committee to defeat this resolution at this time.

TESTIMONY for SCR 32 (Revised)

TO: Senate Education Committee
FROM: Hawaii Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (HAHPERD)
RE: SCR 32 Resolution
DATE: March 24, 2008, 1:15pm, Room 225

POSITION: HAHPERD is opposed to the Department of Education and the Board of Education allowing credit toward graduation for students participating in athletics.

First of all, the majority of athletic coaches in Hawaii are not certified. Allowing graduation credit for athletics is a double standard and opens the door for anyone “off the streets” to coach and allow athletes to receive graduation credit for a non-credited course.

Second, allowing graduation credit for athletics will devalue the elective program, as students will elect to take athletics over liberal arts courses for a well rounded education.

Third, athletics does not meet all of the Four Hawaii Content Standards. Standard One refers to participating in a wide variety of physical activities. Athletics does not offer a wide variety of physical activity. Athletics is limited to only the traditional sports and does not provide opportunity to a wide range of leisure and innovative lifetime activities.

Standard Two of the Hawaii Content Standards for Physical Education includes the learning of concepts and their application to motor skills and promotion of an active lifestyle for health and wellness. Coaches are only concerned about winning in their sport, and not about increasing the knowledge base of general health and wellness, or the five components of health-related fitness or lifestyle health and fitness components.

Fourth, since Hawaii is a standard-based state, will the DOE and BOE hold coaches, the majority of whom are not certified and are not familiar with writing a lesson plan based on standards, accountable for meeting all criteria. Please note that “watering down” the standards by allowing an activity that is “generally in accordance with the standards established by the DOE for physical education” is a double standard, very much substandard, and a very, very poor example of quality education. Are we teaching our students to not strive for excellence and to be accepting of a mediocre program we call education in Hawaii.

In conclusion, HAHPERD urges the senate education committee to rethink what quality education is, and not pass Resolution SCR 32.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Chun, HAHPERD President



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
March 24, 2008 at 1:15 pm

By
Linda Johnsrud
Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy, University of Hawai'i

SCR 120 – REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP, OFFER, AND EXPAND PHILIPPINE LANGUAGE COURSES.

Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

I am Linda Johnsrud, Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy, University of Hawai'i System. On behalf of the University System, I am testifying on Senate Concurrent Resolution 120 which requests the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Philippine Language and Literature program and the Mānoa Student Equity, Excellence, and Diversity (SEED) Office to work with the College of Education, other University of Hawai'i campuses and the Department of Education to develop a plan to offer Philippine language and related courses and teacher training workshops, including recommendations to implement these courses in specific schools and University of Hawai'i campuses.

SCR 120 presents data about the number and percentage of Hawai'i residents who are of Filipino ancestry, the large representation of Filipino students in the K-12 public schools, and their underrepresentation in higher education. It makes a compelling case that the availability of courses in the Filipino language and culture would support the academic success of Filipino students in our schools.

We concur with the observation in SCR 120 that the UH Mānoa Philippine Language and Literature program and the SEED Office have the expertise in language, culture, ethnic studies, and service learning opportunities to develop a plan to offer courses at other campuses. We would like to note that resources available to fund new courses or programs are scarce for all campuses, and that each campus must have the opportunity to prioritize with care the needs of their particular students and communities. We strongly recommend that in developing a plan, UH Mānoa must ensure that other campuses have the opportunity to weigh in with their own needs as they balance having to implement new courses or programs with the other priorities they must address.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM
Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
March 24, 2008 at 1:15 pm

by
Linda Johnsrud
Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy, University of Hawai'i

SCR 184 – REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO REPORT ON HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSIONS.

Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Senate Committee on Education:

I am Linda K. Johnsrud, Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy at the University of Hawai'i System, and I am testifying on behalf of the University. Senate Concurrent Resolution 184 requests the University to study and report to the legislature on higher education student financial assistance commissions in other states, with input from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, a representative from a private higher education institution, the Hawai'i P-20 Initiative and the Hawai'i Business Roundtable.

The University of Hawai'i supports SCR 184. We look forward to preparing the report and examining practices in other states that that would help Hawai'i in strengthening access to higher education for its residents through the vehicle of a financial assistance commission while also supporting the state's need to increase educational capital, especially in critical areas. We look forward to discussions with the groups listed, and to making recommendations to you and your colleagues in the legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Mothers Against Drunk Driving HAWAII
700 Bishop Street, Suite 1111
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone (808) 532-6232
Fax (808) 532-6004
www.maddhawaii.org

March 21, 2008

To: Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair, Senate Committee on Education; Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair; and members of the Committee

From: Arkie Koehl – Chair, Public Policy Committee, MADD-Hawaii

Re: SCR 220 – Requesting the Department of Education to consider continuing Project Graduation training through Driver Education underwriters' fees as part of traffic safety education.

I am Arkie Koehl testifying on behalf of the membership of Mothers Against Drunk Driving – Hawaii, in support of SCR 220.

MADD Hawaii has been a strong supporter of Project Graduation since we were introduced to the concept in the 1980s and especially since it became a project of the Department of Education in 1990. MADD is familiar with the training necessary to enlist the aid of parents from schools across the state and to equip them with the skills, information, and contacts necessary to plan and produce a successful Project Graduation alcohol-free event.

Graduation is a huge milestone for high school students and it is only natural that graduation night is a long-awaited time to celebrate with friends in the most festive way possible. In the past, graduation night celebrations invariably included alcohol and occasionally a highway tragedy would result and forever mar the occasion for the family, the school and all its graduates. As SCR 220 pointed out, there are no longer deaths and serious injuries of graduates on graduation night – thanks to the work of the Project Graduation coordinator and the many parents and community members who make events in 50 high schools truly life-saving and memorable experiences.

Training is an absolute essential part of Project Graduation and MADD Hawaii favors using some of the Drivers Education funds to support the training component since the Federal grant is ending. Project Graduation has become a wonderful way for the community and parents to come together to ensure that graduates reach their future. We urge the committee to pass this resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Date of Hearing: Monday, March 24, 2008
Committee: Senate Education
Title: (In support of) SCR No. 220, Requesting the Department of Education to Consider Continuing Project Graduation Training Through Driver Education Underwriters' Fees as Part of Traffic Safety Education

My name is Joanne Swearingen and I recently retired from the Department of Education as administrator for the Accreditation and School Improvement Section. Formerly, I've also served as DOE state program manager for the driver education program. As a supporter of public education and parent involvement in the public schools, I am also currently serving as chairperson of the Kaimuki High School Community Council, Scholarship Chairperson for the Kaimuki High PTA, and Jarrett Middle School Foundation Board member. In the past I've served as Hokulani PTA president, Jarrett Band Parents Association president, Kaimuki High PTA president, and on the Hawaii State PTSA Board as Honolulu region director. I also served on the Project Graduation committees at Kalani High School and Kaimuki High School.

As noted in the Resolution, Project Graduation is one of the three high school activities in which parents get involved. Though parent participation in school activities is generally good at the elementary level, it tapers off at middle school, and is almost non-existent at the high school level, despite efforts of school staff, with the exception of band, athletics, and Project Graduation.

High school graduation is a really important event for both students and parents in Hawaii. Why do parents support Project Graduation? Because it's a great gift that you can give to your child: A safe way to have a great time, possibly for the last time, with your high school friends and classmates. A safe way to spend your graduation night **without** drinking and driving and getting into accidents because you feel so "high." A safe way to surprise your child with "fun" activities that they don't know about until Project Graduation starts.

Because there is a new group of parents every year that plans Project Graduation for their children at the more than 50 public and private high schools that currently conduct Project Graduation, **it is critical that Project Graduation training be offered for parents every year.** The Department of Education has been doing this since 1990 through a Department of Transportation federal grant for this traffic safety education activity. Since the grant is ending in September 2008, it is important for the DOE to continue this annual training for parents. State law allows driver education funds to be used for traffic safety education activities, including training parents for Project Graduation. I strongly support the passage of this Resolution encouraging the DOE to continue Project Graduation training for parents through driver education funds.

Date: 03/24/2008

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 158 Proposed SD1 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PURSUE A FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW KIHEI HIGH SCHOOL ON MAUI AND TO CONSIDER A DESIGN-BUILD APPROACH FOR THE SCHOOL

Purpose of Resolution: Requesting the department of education to pursue a financing agreement for the construction of the new Kihei High School on Maui and to consider a design-build approach for the school

Department's Position: The Department of Education supports this resolution. An alternative method of financing is a possible option providing the DOE a method to continue work on this project. If the Legislature adopts this resolution and does not provide bond funding, the DOE will proceed to enter negotiations with the landowner to utilize alternative financing. A design-build approach will be incorporated into any agreement reached with the landowner. Should a financing agreement be pursued, the DOE understands that this resolution expresses the intent of the Legislature to fund the lease payments by appropriating funds for this purpose. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.