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January 28, 2008  
1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 225

TESTIMONY TO  
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: SB2035 – Relating to the Issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds  
for Maui Preparatory Academy

Dear Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

My name is George C. Baker and I am the Headmaster at Maui Preparatory Academy, an independent, co-educational day school on the island of Maui. The Academy was founded in 2005 and currently provides a full range of academic, athletic and extracurricular programs for 200 students in grades Pre-K to 10. We are in the process of adding one grade each year to ultimately become a Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade school by the 2009-2010 school year. We offer an educational option for students in West Maui and our diverse student body comes from a wide range of socio-economic groups.

Maui Preparatory Academy will be the sole recipient beneficiary of the Special Purpose Revenue Bond authorization of Senate Bill 2035. We strongly urge your support of this bill.


Part VIII, Chapter 39A of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes allows the State to issue Special Purpose Revenue Bonds for private school construction and renovation and makes it feasible for the Maui Preparatory Academy to make substantial improvements to benefit our student body and our larger community. Your authorization of this Special Purpose Revenue Bond will allow Maui Preparatory Academy to plan and finance campus capital projects while minimizing our reliance on monetary contributions from parents and friends of the school. These projects are specific to the school and will greatly enhance the school's ability to provide a quality education in an environment that is safe and conducive to learning.

Maui Preparatory Academy asks for the issuance of a Special Purpose Revenue Bond in the amount of \$25,000,000 for the financing and/or refinancing of improvements to both our Lower and Middle School facilities, built in 2004, and our Upper School, to allow for our expansion to a full Pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade school.

Once again, Maui Preparatory Academy strongly supports the passage of SB2035.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Mr. George C. Baker  
Headmaster  
Maui Preparatory Academy