


LATE

To: Hawaii State Senate Committee on Education
The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair
Friday, February 8, 2008
1:15 PM
Conference Room 225

Fr: Sarah Kaopuiki 
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Re: Testimony in Support of SB 2500 Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Senators Chun Oakland, Gabbard, Hee, Nishihara, Taniguchi, and Slom:

As an individual who attended Lana'i High and Elementary School until the 8th grade and later graduated from Stanford University and the Kamahemeha Schools, I deeply understand the value of education and strongly support SB 2500 Relating to Education which would authorize the director of finance to issue general obligation bonds for the construction of a new classroom building on the campus of Lana'i High and Elementary School.

In today's world, education, especially in the STEM fields has become less of a benefit and more of a necessity. Speaking from personal experience, students on Lana'i do not have many opportunities to explore math and the sciences in their everyday lives outside of the school environment. This emphasizes the importance of quality science education in the classroom, something not able to be achieved without the proper facilities. The proposed design of the building itself, highlighting green energy, will be a unique learning experience for the students, exposing them to one of the new waves in engineering.

I ask that you support SB 2500, and in doing so, support the ability for students on Lana'i to gain the opportunity at a level playing field in the STEM fields, in education in general, and in the workforce.

LATE

Chair Sakamoto & Members of the committee, was born and
My name is Roderick Sumagat and ~~is a~~ ^{was born and} ~~tao~~
raised on ^{the island} Lanai. Currently, I am a teacher
at Lanai High & Elem. School. I am testifying
today along with the 53 teachers ~~at~~ Lanai
High & Elem in support of SB 2500. The
construction of the new classroom building
will provide a safe learning environment
for our ~~student~~ ^{geographical, isolated} ~~who a geographical~~ ^{student}
~~isolated~~ Thank you for your time.