

April 11, 2008

Hearing on SCR 158, 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.

Before the House Committee on Education  
on Friday, April 11, 2008 at 2 p.m. in Conference Room 309

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Berg, and members of the Committee:

My name is Everett Dowling, President of Dowling Company, Inc. ("DCI").

DCI is a Maui-based real estate development company. My Company and I are strong and active supporters of education. DCI developed Kamali'i Elementary School and KSBE's first neighbor island campus on Maui; while I served for many years on the University of Hawaii's Board of Regents. I currently serve on the Board of Trustees of Babson College and an advisory board of the Harvard University Graduate School of Design.

For the past couple of years, various members of the Maui educational community have approached me to develop a high school in Kihei. Given my strong interest in education, I would like to assist with the project, if there is a way of getting the funding.

The scarcity of funding requires the use of alternative approaches to securing moneys for new schools and the maintenance of existing schools. Accordingly, SCR 158 requests that the Department of Education pursue a financing agreement and to consider a design-build approach for construction of Kihei High School. The use of a financing agreement and a design-build

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approach by the Department of Education may provide the necessary funding needed for the development of Kihei High School. Thus, I strongly support SCR 158, but would ask that the Committee consider amending the resolution to add the word "lease" to ensure that any financing agreement would also include provisions to allow the Department of Education to make lease payments once the school is designed and built. My proposed amendment does not change the intent of SCR 158, it is merely a clarification, which I believe articulates the intent more accurately.