

**From:** The Proute Family [proutef001@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 09, 2010 6:24 PM  
**To:** EDH Testimony  
**Subject:** Support for HB 2740, HD1 Securing Special Funding Mechanism for Royal Kunia Elementary School

March 9, 2010

HB 2740, HD1 Relating to the Budget-Public School Facilities  
Wednesday, March 10, 2010  
1:15 p.m.  
Room 225, State Capitol

Dear SOH House of Representatives Committee on Education and Housing,

I am submitting this testimony in support of HB 2740. As a resident of the Royal Kunia Community and a parent of a student who attends Kalei'opu'u Elementary, an overcrowded school servicing our community and that of Village Park, I would like to ask for your approval of this bill which would allow the State of Hawai'i's Department of Education (DOE) to enter into a financing agreement for the timely planning, designing, and building of the long-awaited Royal Kunia Elementary School.

At the moment, our residents have four options: Option 1 to have our children continue to attend Kalei'opu'u Elementary an overcrowded school with no relieve in sight until Royal Kunia Elementary is finally built; Option 2 to request a geographical exemption to schools outside of our area and deal with the traffic to get our kids to school on time; Option 3 to pay exorbitant prices for a private education; and Option 4 to pack-up and move to other overcrowded schools which are getting new schools built in their area.

The Royal Kunia Community has faced many obstacles to get an elementary school. The first developer assured the residents that the elementary school was to be built during Phase II. He broke ground to build Phase II in 1994 and shortly thereafter, declared bankruptcy. The land had a lien, so the school was taken off the DOE's priority list. In 2007, after the media reported that a new developer will be building Phase II and that the land was once again free of lien, some residents took it upon themselves to go before the Board of Education's Committee on Budget and Fiscal Accountability and request that the school be reinstated in the priority list. On September 2009, the DOE reinstated Royal Kunia Elementary in the priority list.

The current land owner (Mr. Burt Kobayashi) is ready and willing to start the planning and design work for the school. Mr. Stanford Carr is leading the Phase II development. The land permits have been issued, and the work is slated to begin at the end of 2010.

HB 2740 will enable an alternate funding mechanism for the planning and building of Royal Kunia Elementary School. Due to the current state of the economy, it will ensure that the DOE's school projects will stay on track. Without this funding, the overcrowding at Kalei'opu'u Elementary will continue.

It has been a long and arduous road for our residents. Please help us ease the overcrowding and give the students in our community the school that they desperately need.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gracie Prouté  
94-1227 Keahua Loop  
Waipahu, HI 96797  
(808) 688-0179

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 09, 2010 11:25 PM  
**To:** EDH Testimony  
**Cc:** dianetodd@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2740 on 3/10/2010 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 3/10/2010 1:15:00 PM HB2740

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Diane Todd  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 94-234 Pouhana Loop Waipahu, HI 96797  
Phone: (808)688-0429  
E-mail: [dianetodd@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:dianetodd@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 3/9/2010

Comments:

As a resident of Royal Kunia and mother of a young child, I support HB 2740, which will allow the long-awaited Royal Kunia Elementary School to finally be built and ease the overcrowding at Kaleiopuu Elementary School.