



Via: [EDHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:EDHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)

**February 10, 2010**

**Strong support of and comments to SB 2576 Relating to Housing**  
**(Impact Fees for new residential developments in school impact districts)**

Honorable Chair Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and Members Senate Committee on Education and Housing:

My name is Dave Arakawa, and I am the Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF), a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. One of LURF's missions is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources and public health and safety.

LURF **strongly supports SB 2576** which requires new residential developments in school impact districts to be subject to all statutes, ordinances, charter provisions, and rules relating to school impact fees and school impact districts. Our **comment** is that the Department of Education (DOE) impact fee also applies to the construction of individual residences, and is not limited only to "residential developments." DOE is currently in the process of implementing its impact fee district designations based on this.

The impact fees are legal if all of those creating the impact pay the fees. This bill clarifies that since affordable housing projects create school-aged children, they should also be assessed DOE impact fees. For over 20 years, private developers have been paying impact fees on both their market units and on the affordable housing units they build. This bill will assure that everyone pays their fair share to support education in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our **strong support to SB 2576**.