



Linda Lingle
Governor

Vanelle Maunalei Love
Executive Director

Charter School Administrative Office

1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: 586-3775 Fax: 586-3776

FOR: SB 2586 Relating to Charter Schools and
SB 2704 Relating to Public Charter Schools
DATE: Monday, February 8, 2010
TIME: 1:45 p.m.
COMMITTEE(S): Education and Housing
ROOM: Conference Room 225
FROM: Maunalei Love, Executive Director

Testimony in **support** of S.B. No. 2586 and S.B. No. 2704.

Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

Aloha, I am Maunalei Love, executive director of the Charter School Administrative Office (“CSAO”). I want to thank the chair and the entire committee for the time and effort being spent to remedy the issue of adequately providing needed resources to all public schools and making Hawaii more competitive for the Race to the Top grant.

We support the intent of both SB 2586 and SB 2704 requiring the Charter School Review Panel (CSRP) to determine a clear process with rigorous criteria for charter schools to be reauthorized on a regular basis. We support allowing the Charter School Administrative Office (CSAO) to directly withhold funds from the EDN 600 allocation for its operational expenses, including salaries for staff and the executive director. The CSAO also supports providing transparent accountability for charter schools and repealing the cap on the number of charter schools. The CSAO particularly supports ensuring that charter school students receive equitable funding along with facilities funding and access. Also supported at the national level both by the US DOE and the National Charter School Alliance is having multiple public charter school authorizers as reflected in the National Alliance’s Model Law.

While we support the intent of SB2704 to improve the charter schools within the public education system by restructuring its governance, we cannot support converting the executive director into a deputy superintendent and placing the CSAO within the department under the current structure. Such a move would seriously compromise the autonomy of the charter schools and hinder many of the reformative measures taking place at Hawaii’s charter schools.

We do support these bills for the changes they make towards providing equitable funding and a supportive environment for all DOE and public charter schools to better position Hawaii in competition for U.S. Department of Education’s Race to the Top (RTT) initiative. States with policies in place supporting equitable funding and facilities for all

public school students are at greater competitive advantage to qualify for RTT and other federal grant programs.

The CSAO is ready, willing, and able to help with any revisions to clarify the details in these drafts. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 2:09 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: jaecenhigashi@rocketmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jaecen Higashi
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jaecenhigashi@rocketmail.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

My name is Jaecen Higashi, and I'm currently attending a Public Charter School called Halau Lokahi as a freshmen. As my second year there I feel comfortable speaking my mind about things knowing that I won't be judged on what I say. I learned how to be respectful to everyone equally and how to be independent. We have small classes that make it easier to speak our minds instead of big classes.

While listening to my kumu talk about how people were trying to shut down charter schools, I didn't know what to think. Halau Lokahi is very important to many people. I remember the first time I stepped into a charter school. I wasn't comfortable with the way they were teaching my classes. It was mostly hands on learning. I wasn't used to any of the things they were doing. But throughout the year they taught me how to do things on your own and not to be ashamed of anything. In my old school, the teachers didn't give us second chances on homework, they didn't teach you how to be yourself, or to be independent etc. But this school did.

We really need your support to help us keep our charter schools open. It's very important for me to stay in this school because I won't be able to speak my mind in any other school such as Farrington, Punahou, etc. Everyone in Halau Lokahi is my family. All I'm asking for is your support.

Mahalo,
Jaecen Higashi

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 2:03 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: bigboy96817@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position:
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: kamu
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: bigboy96817@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I am a sophomore at halau lokahi and we need your support to treat us charter school the same way you treat public schools. We learn more about culture and respect because in old hawaii we learn to respect. Please help our school.

Mahalo
kamu

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 1:56 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: kakalia7@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: whitney
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kakalia7@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

Aloha, Senators

My name is Whitney Kakalia, I am a student at Halau Lokahi Public Charter School. This is my very first year coming here and already I feel comfortable being at a school that makes me feel welcomed and not afraid to make mistakes and to go up in front of many people and to be confident and loud and to speak my mind to others.

After hearing the horrible news about the bill that wants us to shut our charter schools down I was very upset. Charter schools are not like regular public schools, the teachers really care for the students if something personal was to happen to them, they make the students feel like their worth something or that their dream or ambition to become someone or something in the future can be possible.

I speak for all the charter schools on this island to say that the charter schools should get the same amount of fairness that the other public schools get, our school is no different than the other schools out there, Halau Lokahi has the same teaching as regular schools but they teach it in a way that we can understand.

Our school needs your support to keep our school running and to reach out to the younger generations and to show them the right way through life and to make good life choices. Please help and support our school to keep growing mahalo for you to take a moment of your time to read my letter. I hope you make the right decision.

Mahalo nui loa,
Whitney Kakalia

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 1:55 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: quin808@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Aquindolin
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: quin808@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

Aloha senators my name is Aquindolin Rouse-Kaapa and I feel that your understanding of charter schools is not an equity understanding of public schools. I go to halau lokahi PCS and I learn how to be open minded and self responsibly free I feel that my school is an optimal learning school because we do hands on learning we get to choses a learning that best fits us, and public school don't do that, public school go by the book and most of the time I did not understand it when I went by the book. Going by the book is good for some students but not for me. Charter schools is just anther way for kids to learn a differently and this way works for me.!

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 1:55 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: jordanharley94@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position:
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jordan Harley
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jordanharley94@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

Aloha Senators.

My name is Jordan Harley. I have recently moved to Oahu from Australia. In Australia school are very different, so when i came to Halau Lokahi, i didn't know what to expect. But now i have realized that it's not bad at all. The teaching is really good. there is not many people in my class so the teacher is able to concentrate on me alot more if i am struggling (not that i do, I'm just making a point), and another thing i really like is how cultural everyone is, how the teachers AND student speak to each other in Hawaiian, and how they also dance hula.

anyway, i would like to ask for your help to keep this school alive, for two reasons: 1, I really like this school. 2, If I'm not in school, the American government will send me back to Australia, not that i don't like it there, I love it, but i also really like it here. Cheers.

Yours Truly, Jordan Harley.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 1:46 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: Bootie.gurl@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Chaelle Pali
Organization: Individual
Address: Tantalus Dr. Honolulu, Hawaii
Phone:
E-mail: Bootie.gurl@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I am a Freshmen at Halau Lokahi Public Charter School and your support is needed to keep charter schools running. Halau Lokahi is very important to all my friends and teachers. Without charter schools, students would be forced to attend regular public schools and teachers would loose their jobs. This school means a lot to me, the other students, faculty, and staff who have worked hard to get Halau Lokahi to the point it is at today. Some people see our school as their last hope. That's why your support is needed to keep charter schools alive.

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 1:39 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: hawaiianhulahips4eva@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anela
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: hawaiianhulahips4eva@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

Students attending a charter school are no different from students attending a public school. A charter school provides hands on learning, respect, and independence. Learning in smaller class sizes provides optimal learning for me. Charter schools have a welcoming, home environment causing it to be easier to engage in learning. Along with learning academics, we are also learning valuable life skills. Mahalo for your time.

Anela

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 1:34 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: k12emkoa@ymail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Emma
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: k12emkoa@ymail.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I would like your support for equity and funding for charter school students. I strongly believe that charter schools are of utter importance, and should be continued and equally funded. I have grown as an individual at Halau Lokahi. Sincerely, Emma.

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 12:43 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: cagney10@juno.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Erica C Duffy
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: cagney10@juno.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..
Mahalo for your time and dedication to helping every child of Hawaii.
Erica Cagney Duffy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 12:13 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: pua@kaumeke.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/8/2010 1:45:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Pua Mendonca
Organization: Individual
Address: PO Box 434 Papaikoua, Hi. 96781
Phone: 640-5023
E-mail: pua@kaumeke.org
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap".

SB2704 Support

Aloha,

I am writing in support of SB2704.

If one can keep the focus on the children, the answer to whether to support this bill is clear. All PUBLIC school children, traditional public school children or charter public school children should be treated equally.

The charter public school children should receive equitable funding to the traditional public school children. If a child leaves a traditional public school to attend a charter public school, then those monies should follow the child, just as if a charter public school student leaves their school, I would expect the same to hold true. It does not make sense for a traditional public school child's education to be 'worth' more than a charter public school child's education.

Each public charter school is held to the same educational and testing requirements as a traditional public school. They serve the same PUBLIC school children.

Please vote in support of this bill.

Aloha, Marie Bailey

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 7:49 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: Ctown7a@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Chris Town
Organization: Individual
Address: 4168 omao rd KOLOA, HI
Phone: 2217296
E-mail: Ctown7a@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

Encourage grass roots initiatives to improve and adapt education for all children and families. No caps on innovations please.
I am a retired school and district level administrator.

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 8:57 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: haawinam@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Haawina Wise
Organization: Individual
Address: P.O Box 492224 Keaau, HI 96749
Phone: 808 6409131
E-mail: haawinam@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

February 9th, 2010

Aloha Senators,

My daughter is in the 4th grade and attends Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School on the Island of Kaua`i. Kawaikini is now in its 2nd year of operation.

My daughter went from a population of 900 in a K-5 Public DOE School to a population of 92 in K-12 Public Charter School. At the DOE school, she was anonymous to all but her immediate teachers. At her Charter School, she is known and loved and cared for by all the administration and teachers. This safe and caring environment sets the stage for success for her and all the students. Charter Schools, with smaller populations, offer a small student-teacher ratio leading to effective teaching and successful learning.

I am a very involved and engaged parent and I highly value the Public Charter School environment. The small environment fosters connection and parents are empowered to become engaged because the effects of their involvement are obvious and immediate.

But I am disheartened that the school has to struggle with the extremely small budget each year. Every teacher at Kawaikini is top-notch. They are hindered in their potential as teachers because they don't have the budget to obtain the tools for their profession. Our administration is small and going above and beyond to ensure the success of Kawaikini. Our administration, our teachers and our keiki deserve more!

Public Charter Schools have the potential to turn education around in our state, but without adequate per pupil funding, they are limited in their growth and movement. As a parent, it makes no sense that the former public school would receive much higher funding for her enrollment than does her current public school.

Kawaikini's partner non-profit is doing their part in seeking funding to create permanent facilities and even in these lean economic times, are still hopeful and moving forward.

For the State's part, a realistic per pupil funding equal to that of DOE schools would help Kawaikini and all Public Charter Schools keep on track for our keiki to reach their fullest potential.

Please support SB2704 which will give Charter Schools equitable funding.

Mahalo nui loa,
Isa Segismundo

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:03 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: auntysybil@kaumeke.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sybil Evans
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: auntysybil@kaumeke.org
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:05 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: hedy@ireland.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Hedy L Sullivan
Organization: Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) PCS
Address: PO Box 690390 Makaweli, HI 96769
Phone: 808/337-2022
E-mail: hedy@ireland.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap";

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:06 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: lauae@ireland.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lauae Kanahel
Organization: Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) PCS
Address: PO Box 690390 Makaweli, HI 96769
Phone: 808/337-2022
E-mail: lauae@ireland.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap";

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:06 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: lauae@ireland.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lauae Kanahele
Organization: Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) PCS
Address: PO Box 690390 Makaweli, HI 96769
Phone: 808/337-2022
E-mail: lauae@ireland.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap";

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:07 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: tita@ireland.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gloria Shintani
Organization: Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) PCS
Address: PO Box 690390 Makaweli, HI 96769
Phone: 808/337-2022
E-mail: tita@ireland.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap";

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:07 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: ulu@edithkanakaolefoundation.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ulumauahi Kelii Kanakaole Ohaililani
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: ulu@edithkanakaolefoundation.org Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:07 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: lama@ireland.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Vigilant Kaohelaulii
Organization: Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) PCS
Address: PO Box 690390 Makaweli, HI 96769
Phone: 808/337-2022
E-mail: lama@ireland.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap";

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:08 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: 808gutters@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anthony Wise II
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: 808gutters@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:12 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: ainaalohaioane@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ainaaloha Ioane
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: ainaalohaioane@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:14 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: mahealani@kaumeke.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mahealani
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mahealani@kaumeke.org
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:15 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: keahiw@kaumeke.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Keahi Warfield
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: keahiw@kaumeke.org
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:16 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: kuai@kaumeke.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kuai Young
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kuai@kaumeke.org
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:17 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: carol@kaumeke.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carol Ioane
Organization: Individual
Address: North Kulani RD. Mt.View HI
Phone: 8089878448
E-mail: carol@kaumeke.org
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

I support full equal funding for charter schools. I am a Kumu at a charter school in Hilo. I have seen students who have come from DOE schools lost & confused, with low motivation, & a total negative attitude toward education, become highly motivated & fully engaged in learning over the course of a few months at a charter school. Charter schools are able to create programs that focus on the individual strengths of students as learners, they can easily incorporate values education into their curriculum which leads to self-esteem building for all students. Charter schools are focused on differentiating curriculum which allows for success for all. Charter schools produce students who are highly motivated, self confident, creative thinkers who will become positive productive citizens of the future. This I know for a fact as two of my children are graduates of a charter school & currently my granddaughter attends a charter school, we would not choose any other type of school for our ohana. I support SB2704

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:18 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: nohea@kaumeke.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nohea Nahale-a
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: nohea@kaumeke.org
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:19 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: dalton@kaumeke.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dalton Kiko
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: dalton@kaumeke.org
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 10:29 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: anne.miller@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anne Miller
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: anne.miller@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 11:52 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: mondoy.jack@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: T. JACK
Organization: Individual
Address: NANIAKEA ST HILO HI
Phone:
E-mail: mondoy.jack@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap";.

To Whom It May Concern;

My name is Lauren Nāhiwa, and I am the mother of four young boys whose mother tongue is currently the primary language spoken at home and at school. I am also a staunch supporter of the revitalization of the Hawaiian language as I am also a staff member of the Ka Haka ʻŌiā O Keʻēlikōlani College of Hawaiian Language at the University Hawaiʻi at Hilo. It is imperative that Public Charter Schools (PCS) such as those that employ the immersion philosophy continue to receive funding support. Without these schools our children would be forced to attend public schools that may not support such philosophy. I, myself, being a product of the public school system, have seen the difference that these types of immersion programs have on my children's lives, granted they are still young, however, they are so finely intuned with their cultural identity, surmisedly imparted by speaking their mother tongue. It has been found in studies that children that have this type of connection to their culture and a firm grasp on what it is to be a Native person, are less likely to fall into current epidemics that plague us such as crime, delinquency and violence. I believe strongly that these findings are proof that the students being reared at these schools are set apart from all other children in the public school system, notice I use the word *reared* rather than *taught* as the Immersion School Philosophy is a holistic approach.

Regards,
Lauren L S Nahiwa

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 2:53 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: rmoody@hhsc.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Robert Moody
Organization: Individual
Address: 4991 Hokualele Rd Anahola, HI
Phone:
E-mail: rmoody@hhsc.org
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:
Aloha kakou!

I have a daughter enrolled in Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School on Kauai.

The experience has been nothing but positive for her and our family.

She was not receiving a comparable education at her former DOE school so the creation of this charter school, just a year and a half ago, was truly a blessing.

Please support this legislation and help our charter schools flourish.

Mahalo!

Robert Moody

From: sandra doherty [sandoherty8@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 3:34 PM
To: Sen. Norman Sakamoto; Sen. Michelle Kidani;
sengaluterin@capitol.hawaii.gov; Sen. Shan Tsutsui;
senhemings@capitol.hawaii.gov; Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland
Subject: SB2704

Dear Senators,

Being a retired teacher in the Hawaii public school system, I am very concerned about the future of public education in Hawaii. I am an active member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) which supports Hawaii's charter schools.

Please consider SB2704 which supports EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL CHILDREN. The charter schools need a facilities allowance, not just an OK that they need support with no money, they need to be allowed to grow. We must lift the "CAP".

We need equity in funding for all public school children, whatever public school they choose to attend, not some formula determined by the BOE when they have no idea what the needs are for each individual school or their students.

Please, support SB2704.
Sincerely,

Sandra Doherty, retired teacher, and former president of the Kona chapter of HSTA (1986-1989)

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 4:01 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: steve_hirakami@notes.k12.hi.us
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Steve Hirakami
Organization: Hawaii Charter Schools Network
Address: PO Box 1494 Pahoehoe, HI 96778
Phone: 808-965-3730
E-mail: steve_hirakami@notes.k12.hi.us
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

I am in general support of SB2704. I agree with lifting the cap on start up charters (the current statute allows for 25 conversions of which there are currently five) however, it does not assure an increase in charters unless the annual budget allows for expansion. An "economic" cap on charters exists with static or decreasing allocations to a steadily increasing amount of charter students meaning less money per pupil. The demand exists: charter schools have an accumulated list of approximately 3,000 students on waiting lists to gain entry to existing charter schools.

I agree with the idea of multiple authorizers, the governor appointing the CSRP members instead of the BOE, equal funding compared to department students, and federal funding not being automatically being eliminated from charters. There is more work to be done to insure an equitable distribution of EDN 150, because presently there are non-SPED costs imbedded in EDN 150 that are supposed to be servicing the general student population. If EDN 150 is to be automatically eliminated from the funding formula of charter schools, all non-SPED costs need to be distributed to EDN 100 under Weighted Student Formula.

One main ingredient lacking in this bill is addressing the urgent need of start up charters to receive some form of facilities support. Zero dollars and zero support is unconstitutional. I refer to the opening statement in Article X of the State Constitution which provides for the facilities (thereof) for public education. The facility allocation formula language presently imbedded in Section 302-B8 of the statute needs to be moved to the funding part of the law 302-b12 and the word "may" changed to "shall" provide facilities funding. We appreciate the discussion taking place and are fully aware of the State's financial situation. But unless some of these inequities in public education are mitigated, the State will be forfeiting the chance for hundreds of millions of dollars in education reform movements like Race to the Top. Remember, the President's first initiative was health care reform and he is turning his efforts towards education. Let's start preparing our State to qualify. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Steve Hirakami, Principal Hawaii Academy of Arts & Science

To Hawaii State Legislature,

Aloha my name is Natasha Troche,

I am writing to you on behalf of **RELATING TO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS SB2704.** I'm requesting that you over look this bill, I am in favor for Bill SB2704 I am a parent of four children that attend Public charter school and have found great benefits with Public charter Schools. As a parent there is nothing better then to see your child enjoy school and the education system. Please I humbly ask of you to consider this bill, for the benefit of our future generation of Hawaii.

Mahalo Nui Loa,
Natasha Troche

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 4:37 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: nmower@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nancy Alpert Mower
Organization: Individual
Address: 1536 Kamole Street Honolulu, Hawaii
Phone: 808-373-2901
E-mail: nmower@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

The Center for Educational Reform gave Hawaii Charter School law a D grade in evaluating our state's ability to compete for Race to the Top Funding. Three areas are hindering this ability to compete. I'm speaking to one of these areas: "an ambiguous commitment to equitable funding for students at public charter schools." The public charter schools of Hawaii are doing an excellent job educating Hawaii's children and yet, since their inception, they've been functioning with approximately half the funding per student that students in non-charter public schools receive. This is basically and patently unfair to both students and teachers in the charter schools. I understand that the reason for this inequality is that charter schools are allowed to seek other funding through such sources as grants. As you well know, however, grant writing takes a fantastic amount of time and energy--time and energy which could and should instead be devoted to teaching, and even then funding of the grants is not guaranteed. Our excellent public charter schools should not have to raise their own money. Please end this inequality and treat our children equally whether they are in public charter schools or traditional public schools.

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:06 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: limasawyer@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Puakailima Naipo
Organization: Individual
Address: 2471 A Kinoole Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: 808-987-5742
E-mail: limasawyer@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:06 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: limasawyer@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Puakailima Naipo
Organization: Individual
Address: 2471 A Kinoole Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: 808-987-5742
E-mail: limasawyer@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:17 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: inaipo@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ikaika Naipo
Organization: Individual
Address: PO BOX 7005 HILO, HI 96720
Phone: 8082171023
E-mail: inaipo@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 9:18 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: LIMA.NAIPO@WELLSFARGO.COM
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: LIMA SAWYER
Organization: Individual
Address: 1437 KILAUEA AVE, 103 HILO, HI 96720
Phone: 8089353953
E-mail: LIMA.NAIPO@WELLSFARGO.COM
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2010 10:54 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: kanivictor@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2704 on 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM

Testimony for EDH 2/10/2010 1:20:00 PM SB2704

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nikki & Gabriel Victor
Organization: Individual
Address: King Hilo, HI
Phone:
E-mail: kanivictor@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/9/2010

Comments:

In support of SB2704 I ask that you help support equity and social justice for public charter school children according to Federal Race to the Top guidelines for potential funding of \$75MIL. Provide equity in funding for all public school children. Provide an equal amount per student for all "special needs" students in ALL public schools. Provide a facilities allowance and allow for growth, Lift the "cap"..