



Via: EDHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

February 5, 2010

**House Committee on Education and Housing
Hearing Date: Friday, February 5, 2010, 1:40 PM in CR 225**

**Testimony in Strong Support of SB 2828 – Relating to Education
(Clarification to Act 245 (2007) School Impact Fee Law)**

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

My name is David 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 appreciates this opportunity to provide our comments and testify and is in strong support of SB 2828, clarifies the law for determining school impact fees for financing new or expanding existing Department of Education (DOE) schools or facilities.

This bill was proposed to provide clarifications to the laws relating to DOE Impact Fees, and it could also serve as a vehicle to address the concerns of other stakeholders such as Ho'okuleana LLC, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, Hawaii Leeward Planning Conference, the Kona Chamber of Commerce and LURF.

Over the past several months some of the stakeholders have been meeting with DOE, and some progress has been made in clarifying and/or resolving some issues. However, there are still issues to resolve and more work to be done. We look forward to working together with DOE, the other stakeholders and the Legislature toward resolving the remaining issues and implementation of the DOE Impact Fee law.

We respectfully urge this Committee to **favorably consider SB 2828, and to pass it out of this Committee.**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our **strong support of SB 2828.**