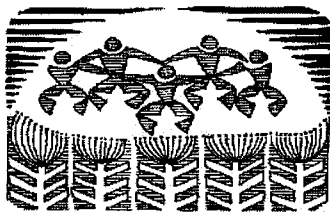


**SB 2889**



## Volcano School of Arts and Sciences

Dr. David Rizor, Education Director

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SB 2889

Testimony for WAM February 24, 2010, 10:00 AM, Room 211, SB2889

Testifier Position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Organization: Volcano School of Arts & Sciences

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Submitted on February 23, 2010

SB 2889

Testimony in support

Aloha Senator Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

The largest challenge facing our charter schools is obtaining affordable facilities that are conducive to learning. The rural community of Volcano has few facilities that will accommodate a school, and as many charter schools are finding in rural areas, the available properties of a size sufficient for a school campus tend to be zoned for agricultural use.

The campus of the former Keakealani School, which was closed in the early 1970s, is located in Volcano Village. It has been used for the Keakealani Outdoor Education Center, which is on the current DOE proposed closure list. The property would provide an excellent campus site for Volcano School of Arts & Sciences due to its existing designation as a school site and the size of the property. There is strong support within the community for this facility to operate as our community school in Volcano.

With the difficult financial stresses the state is currently experiencing, the transfer of this property to Volcano School of Arts & Science is a win-win opportunity for the state, the DOE, and Volcano School. This transfer would allow DOE to scale back expenses immediately and provide Volcano School with long-term facilities stability and reduced expenses over the long term.

I strongly support this bill.

Sincerely,

David Rizor, PhD  
Education Director