

SB797

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is Aldene Sumic and I am a junior at Kohala High School. I am testifying on SB No. 797, Making an appropriation for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses at public high schools statewide. I strongly support this Bill. Advanced Placement (AP) courses give students the opportunity to challenge themselves and to experience what will be expected of them in college. I understand that AP coursework is not appropriate for all students, however it is important to have a challenging course of study for those students who are college bound, just as we have special education courses for those students with special needs.

Earning college credits for AP courses completed with high test scores is also an economic advantage for public school students. In addition, students from Hawaii will be at a disadvantage when applying to colleges and universities, if they have not taken AP courses. Taking AP courses is the only way a student can earn a grade point average (GPA) higher than 4.0. My school is an AVID school and I am an AVID student. We are encouraged to take AP courses. Due to the recent budget cuts to education, I am afraid that I will not have the opportunities that I need. I don't think that taking an AP course online will provide me with the support and instruction I need to succeed.

Senate Bill (SB) Number 797

Title: MAKING AN APPORPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is **William Fisher** and I am a junior at James Campbell High School. I am testifying on SB No. 797, MAKING AN APPORPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE. I **passionately support of SB 797.** I am a International Baccalaureate student. Throughout my day I learn that the world is a giant community that we have more in common then we have differences. In order to establish a healthy relationship with the rest of the world our own community needs to be stronger. That's why I support SB 797. I want others to have the same chances as me to get into a good college and have a better life.

Right now the stimulus package has cut more school budgets, so now more than ever kids from everywhere in our island need Advanced Placement and IB classes to make it. All students need to have the choice to have control over their future and with SB 797 it will make sure every student has the power to dream, and be better. AP and IB are so important that we should not deprive anyone no matter their situation these educational advantages.

Already as an IB student I am learning so much; I desperately want other schools to have these programs and more classes for them, because the community will grow stronger from all schools having these courses offered throughout Hawaii. This is so important we must give every advantage we can to schools in our community and to every student so they can take control and succeed; especially with how difficult times are now. I'm for senate Bill 797 and you should be too.

From: [Mark Tiburcio](#)
To: [EDH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for Senate Bills Referred to the Senate Committee on Education and Housing, Friday, February 13, 2009 at 2:30 PM
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2009 11:48:57 PM

Senate Bill (SB) Number 797

Title: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is [Mark Tiburcio](#) and I am a Senior at James Campbell High School. I am testifying on SB No. 797, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE. I [strongly support this Bill](#) because I believe that AP classes are vital for students of an upper secondary school in his/her transition into a college education. There are many schools without specific AP courses which is essential for a student who plans to pursue that specific subject as his/her intended major. Also, it can be hard for students to transfer to other schools in the district because transportation can be one of the factors limiting students to find the schools with the right AP courses available. At JCHS, I was hoping to be able to take an AP Japanese Language and Literature course, but we did not have enough funding to start that up and I could not transfer to other schools offering that AP course for transportation reasons as well. I hope you will consider passing our bill for it enables students an array of courses at the comfort of a school close to home. The students are our future and we need to start with the passing of this bill.

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Senate Bill (SB) Number 797

Title: MAKING AN APPORPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is **David Cao** and I am a junior at James Campbell High School. I am testifying on SB No. 797, MAKING AN APPORPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE. **I strongly support this** Bill because I personally believe that all schools should be provided with the same opportunity in education, and that such programs should not be limited to only those schools with sufficient funds. Students should be given the same opportunity that students in Mid-Pacific Institute and James Campbell High School have. Many schools never had the chance to have these programs, but now is the time to provide them with such accommodations. Both the AP and IB programs help to prepare students for college by providing rigorous coursework. It is through this experience that the students become accustomed to the potential rigor that colleges and universities will have. I have experienced many challenges in the IB program and overall, it has greatly improved my sense of internationalism and self-realization. For the better of our prosperity, I humbly ask for your support of the SB 797.

From: [Caitlin Jackson](#)
To: [EDH Testimony; e.baniaga@gmail.com](#)
Subject: MAKING AN APPORPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2009 1:24:12 PM

Senate Bill (SB) Number 797

Title: MAKING AN APPORPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is **Caitlin Jackson** and I am a junior at James Campbell High School. I am testifying on SB No. 797, MAKING AN APPORPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE. I **strongly support** this Bill because with this chance to excel in my classes I now believe that I am at a serious advantage when I begin college. These advanced classes have allowed me to understand what college courses will be like, I also believe that any student should be able to have this chance due to the better quality of education one could have to this privilege.

Thank you for taking the time to read my opinions on this Bill,
Caitlin Jackson, JCHS student

Senate Bill (SB) Number 797

Title: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE.

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is James Platt and I am a junior at James Campbell High School. I am testifying on SB No. 797, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES AT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE. I support this Bill because students will benefit from having AP and IB classes at their schools. AP and IB classes are quite challenging to most and completely overwhelming to some. Of course, these courses *will* be challenging to high school students, as these are entry-level college courses. I believe other students will benefit from AP and IB classes because it will prepare students for college. The bill should be passed because it is important for students to go to college.