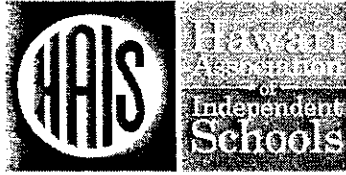


LATE TESTIMONY



Monday, February 28, 2011

10:00 a.m.

Conference Room 308

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

RE: HB 773 – Relating to the Issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds for Saint Louis School

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Robert Witt, executive director of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), which represents 99 private and independent schools in Hawaii and educates over 33,000 students statewide. We would like to testify in support of a measure introduced by one of our member schools, Saint Louis School, which is seeking approval for a Special Purpose Revenue Bond.

The House Committee on Finance has supported similar measures in years past and we are here to acknowledge and recognize your advocacy and support of the ongoing effort by HAIS to encourage its member schools to use Special Purpose Revenue Bonds as an essential strategy for leveraging capital funds urgently needed for campus development and improvement projects.

Private schools in Hawaii serve everyday families from all walks of life. Many students attending private schools receive financial aid to defray the cost of tuition. It is our steadfast belief that private schools serve an important public purpose here in Hawaii by helping to prepare the next generation of young people for college, careers, and citizenship.

In addition, Special Purpose Revenue Bonds do not in any way divert funds away from public schools, while stimulating Hawaii's economy via construction job creation.

For these reasons and others that may be addressed during discussion of this measure today, HAIS **strongly supports HB 773** and the approval of issuance of a Special Purpose Revenue Bond for Saint Louis School.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 10:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: thirr33@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB773 on 2/28/2011 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: A Bad Idea.jpg; Benkei.jpg

Testimony for FIN 2/28/2011 10:00:00 AM HB773

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Arvid Tadao Youngquist
Organization: The Mestizo Association
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: thirr33@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/27/2011

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:
Chair, House Finance Committee
Honorable Members of the Committee

We oppose HB 773.

I recommend that the measure be held. In this time of austerity, the State should not be the middle man for these entities. This is no different that a piece meal bail out by the citizens.

Mahalo nui loa,

Arvid Tadao Youngquist
Chair and Editor
The Mestizo Association