

SB871



**STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

P. O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Senate Comm. on Education
Hearing: Fri., Feb. 11, 2011
1:15 p.m., Conf. Room 225

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB871
Relating to Education: Home School Student Equal Access to Extracurricular Activities

Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee on Education:

Thank you for allowing me to testify in my capacity as a member of the Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE); I testify in support of SB871.

Although the BOE has not taken a position on SB871, in February of 2009, the BOE voted to Support HB493, which was the 2009 version of the bill you are hearing now.

As you know the Department of Education (DOE) is NOT mandated to provide extra-curricular activities to ANY student; however, we have determined that the benefits of such programs outweigh the costs. For all the reasons why our public education system supports extra-curricular activities for traditionally enrolled students, I support offering these same opportunities and benefits to home school students.

Opponents to this equal access measure continually cite the burden that will befall their schools: "How will we ensure these home school students are really maintaining a 2.0 grade point average?"

First of all, Hawaii Administrative Rule Chapter 8-12, Compulsory Attendance Exceptions (HAR 8-12), requires principals to monitor, test and evaluate home school student's progress. There is so much oversight provided by the principals that the DOE's Committee on Weights should allocate home school students their own weight so that schools have an incentive to attract more home school student participation.

Secondly, The DOE Guidelines on the 2.0 GPA rule allows each school to establish their separate internal system for academic checks. Whichever system, or forms, the individual school establishes can be checked by the home school teacher just as well.

When you consider how many DOE students are promoted to the next grade level without demonstrating proficiency in the standards, one wonders why place such scrutiny on whether a home school student has an arbitrary GPA of 2.0?

Thank you for your consideration.

Kim Coco Iwamoto, Esq.
State of Hawaii Board of Education Member, Oahu-at-Large

Date: 02/11/2011

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0871 Relating to Extracurricular Activities

Purpose of Bill: Allows home schooled students to participate on an equal basis in extracurricular activities offered at the public school they would otherwise be required to attend.

Department's Position: At this time, the Department of Education (Department) chooses not to comment on SB 0871 until the Board of Education (Board) is given an opportunity to review the Bill. Bills relating to public education with policy implications are scheduled to be reviewed by the Board at the March 3, 2011 General Business Meeting. Positions taken will be subsequently shared with the appropriate legislative committees.

Erin Conner

From: Tracy A Ryan [tracyar@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Friday, February 04, 2011 12:12 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Subject: Testimony
Attachments: image001.jpg

TESTIMONY

The Libertarian Party
c/o 1658 Liholiho St #205
Honolulu, HI 96822

February 4, 2011

RE: SB 871 to be heard Friday, February 11, 2011 at 1:15 PM in conference room 225.

To the members of the Senate Committee on Education

We support passage of SB 871 that would clarify the rights of home schooled children to participate in extracurricular activities at public schools. Since home schooled families are not exempt from any of the taxes levied in support of such activities there is no justification for denying their equal access.

Sincerely:



Tracy Ryan
Oahu County Chair
The Libertarian Party of Hawaii

(808) 534-1846

tracyar@hawaiiantel.net

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 11:36 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: ARAKAWASUE@GMAIL.COM
Subject: Testimony for SB871 on 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM SB871

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: SUE ARAKAWA
Organization: Northshore Christian Homeschoolers
Address: 61-164 ILIOHU PL HALEIWA
Phone: 8086375515
E-mail: ARAKAWASUE@GMAIL.COM
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Hawaii Student Activities Association

Kalaheo High School

730 Iliaina Street

Kailua, Hawaii 96734

February 11, 2011

President
Richard Lau
Kalaheo High School
Windward District

TO: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Education Committee

Vice President
Angella Brandt
Honokaa High School
Hawaii District

FROM: Richard Lau, President
Hawaii Student Activities Association

SUBJECT: Testimony in Opposition of SB871

Secretary
Art Fillazar
Lahainaluna High School
Maui District

The Hawaii Student Activities Association that represents all Student Activities Coordinators in secondary schools in Hawaii **OPPOSE SB871**.

Treasurer
Donna Vierra
Baldwin High School
Maui District

Parents choosing to pull their children out of public schools submit Form 4140, withdrawing them from the school. By opting out of public education, they are also opting out of all activities sponsored by the school. Home school students should not receive the same privilege of participating in extracurricular and co-curricular activities as public school students receive.

Sherwin Pang
Moanalua High School
Central District

All public school students are subject to Chapter 19 regarding student misconduct, discipline, and other behavioral issues. Home school students are exempt from Chapter 19. How will home school students be accountable for their misbehavior? What disciplinary guidelines are they subject to? This is a huge concern in ensuring that all students are disciplined fairly. School administrators have no control over disciplinary action for home school students.

Rinda Fernandes
Kaiser High School
Honolulu District

Mike Ishihara
Pearl City High School
Leeward District

Participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities requires a 2.0 grade point average. The process of monitoring student's GPA and administering academic review status is clearly defined in public schools. Home school students do not have a process to monitor academic progress that is consistent with public schools.

Harriet Watanabe
Kapaa High School
Kauai District

Public school students are required to pay student fees to participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities. These fees are often used to fund leadership training, activity planning and purchase of supplies and services. Home school students who do not pay school fees should not receive any benefits from this including participation in activities. Even if home school students pay to participate, some activity fees would be too

difficult to calculate fairly. Some co-curricular activities are funded through weighted student formula. How can we fairly assess activity fees for WSA funded activities?

It is clear that allowing home school students to participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities is unfair public school students. The Hawaii Student Activities Association **STRONGLY OPPOSES SB871**.

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Testimony submitted by Mr. Meredith Maeda, Principal, James B. Castle High School

I would like to state my strong opposition to SB 871 and SB 1374, allowing home school students to participate in any extracurricular activities offered by a public school. On 26 April 2010, of the twenty-three (23) Oahu high schools, twenty-one (21) administrators (two were not present) opposed allowing home school students to participate in any extracurricular activities—list available upon request. Statewide, 98% of all school administrators responding to a survey (180 Principals responded as of 05.01.2010) also oppose participation for similar reasons. Since then, 211 principals responded to the survey with 3.2% in favor and 96.8% opposing participation of home school students. There are several reasons that this measure should not be passed:

1. **Beliefs:** Historically and presently, there is a major philosophical difference in students who are home schooled and the public school attendees. Parents chose to provide the education best fit for their child that was other than that for the general population. This was a conscious choice to exclude their child from the public school environment and we have honored their decision over the years to facilitate that exception from compulsory school attendance.

A fair, expeditious, and uniform procedure that could legally challenge questionable reasons for a parent home schooling their child would have to be implemented statewide. Reasons may include, but are not limited to, avoiding mandatory attendance procedures or other disciplinary reasons, leaving to preserve the student's opportunity to participate in co-curricular activities by circumventing the 2.0 GPA Policy, or not able to meet or in some cases does not agree with the financial obligations incurred by the student.

2. **Eligibility:** Participation in co-curricular activities by a public school attendee requires meeting prerequisites before and during the period of the activity—course and grade requirements based on the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards, obligation-free, behavioral expectations according to Chapter 19, and in certain activities to ensure fair competition, residency requirements. There is no fair, unbiased, and equivalent method of gathering information to determine or monitor the eligibility of a home-schooled child.

Home-schooled students have many opportunities to participate in voluntary community activities that do not require external controls and monitoring, other than those that are self imposed, for children from elementary through high school—Honolulu Youth Symphony, Theatre for Youth, Little/Big League baseball and softball, football, year round clubs for volleyball, basketball, soccer, swimming, track and field, and bowling, USTA for tennis, Junior Golf, online advanced courses, and many more.

- 3. Resources:** Schools are allocated general funds to secure the necessary resources to operate school activities by the Weighted Student Formula and vary from school to school depending on their characteristics. These funds are based on only those students that enroll and attend the school from the official enrollment count date in August. Schools must secure supplemental finances in order to operate programs that are not adequately funded by the system. Additionally, students attending public school have mandatory dues to support their class activities and in most cases must fund-raise for their class or specific activity to minimize their expenses. There is no viable fee structure and accounting system for non-attendees that would be fair and equitable without additional resources and/or strain on school personnel to monitor and hold participants accountable.

As it is presently, resources at the high school are being used to implement additional graduation credit requirements, the Personal Transition Plan, Senior Project, Hawaii State Assessment, systemic computer applications such as eSIS, eCSSS, Chapter 19 implementation, Special Education Progress Monitoring, LDS, and DSI, FMS, eHR, HQT, and Lotus Notes without additional funding. In fact, schools will have to find its own sources to fund the mission critical operations in order to have all classroom teachers function minimally.

There would be major negative impact on public schools, a strain on our limited resources and funds, and inequitable requirements for our attending students, should this bill pass. To add another responsibility to the school level—the implementation of this provision is unquestionably at our level—that clearly does not fit the public school vision may be the tipping point. Why are you considering providing access to activities for non-public school students when we are already minimizing co-curricular activities for those students for whom we have a legal responsibility because of a lack of resources? Participation in CTE Student Organizations has been reduced because the State cannot afford to subsidize as they have in the past (DOE memo dated 10.22.2009). Most recently is that some CTE delegates who won the right to represent their school and Hawaii at the National level cannot afford the trip because of their own personal situation and the diminishing support funds over the past several years. Another is the limited recognition of State and National winners in co-curricular activities throughout the year—again because of diminishing funds and the need to prioritize the use of our limited resources, recognition of State winners were eliminated (DOE memo dated 04.19.2010). For increasing costs and lack of transportation funds, students who were provided the opportunity for bus service must now find their own way to school on a daily basis (DOE memos dated 11.25.2009 & 01.22.2010) and for those who participate in co-curricular activities to off-campus events. Now the Department of Education is faced with implementing Act 167 without additional funds.

What is most evident at the school level is eliminating programs because of necessary budget cuts and declaring that these former categorical programs can be funded through the WSF distribution. However, only a portion of the total allocations were distributed by formula to the schools under WSF (DOE memos dated 07.28.2009 & 12.07.2009) to “allow” schools to choose which of the many activities we find to be most beneficial to our population and then are asked to restrict funds in anticipation of fiscal shortfalls in the State—funding homeschoolers over

Testimony submitted by Mr. Meredith Maeda, Principal, Castle High School

Opposition to SB 871 and SB 1374 to allow for homeschoolers to participate in any extracurricular activities.

regular attendees would not be a priority. Similar to the Board's recent decisions, like additional graduation requirements and multiple diplomas that we must implement, allowing homeschoolers to participate in athletics and co-curricular activities would fall in this category (which we term "unfunded mandates"). These are programs that now require funds that would probably have been used for core academics or for the categorical programs that were put in WSF for schools to have "choice" in maintaining what is beneficial for our unique population. We all pay taxes for government services. But, we do not choose what our individual contributions support. If we were to calculate which portion of our individual taxes pays for public education, the figures would be insignificant. It is our collective funds that decision makers, like you, determine to which service has the priority. Therefore, the task at the individual school to calculate how much home-schooled children should pay to participate in any one activity is analogous and would be enormous.

Should you choose to pass this legislation, please consider: Can the Board of Education or the Legislature secure the resources, including funding, in the manner in which other States have, to allow homeschoolers to participate in school activities or add another unfunded mandate? These include:

- Creating an entity within the Board to secure bond funding to cover additional expenses for co-curricular activities.
- Requiring dual enrollment of homeschoolers specifically for funding purposes; most State's school districts get credited for the enrollment count and receive their appropriate allocation. In Hawaii, individual schools would receive that funding directly from the Legislature as line item beyond that which is allocated to the Department of Education.
- Requiring tuition payments set by statute to the school homeschooled student attends (whether public or private) or pays schools a differential for each homeschooled student participating.
- Individual homeschoolers pay for the additional insurance coverage.

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony for your consideration.



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Mililani High School
95-1200 Meheula Pkwy.
Mililani, HI 96789**

February 3, 2011

To: Senator Slom, Oakland, Wakai,

From: Gail Nishimura

Subject: Relating to SB 871 – Allowing Home Schooled Students Participate in Extracurricular Activities

Aloha! My name is Gail Nishimura; I am the Student Activities Coordinator at Mililani High School. I am opposed to amending Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes to allow participation in extracurricular activities by home schooled children.

I think if home schooled students want to participate in school activities at the school that they would normally be required to attend, why not just attend the school. To participate is a privilege for students who attend the school in their home area. Home schooled students don't have that privilege because they gave it up by being home schooled. If allowed to participate home schooled students would have to get all the clearances that the public school student must have – payment of student government and class dues (required), grade checks, and health clearances. If they want to participate in club or class activities additional fees – club dues, fees for grade level activities (i.e. proms) need to be paid.

Students being home schooled have given up the right to participate in public school activities, so if they want to participate, they should enroll at the school. If parents want to keep their home schooled student separate from public school students, why would they want them to participate in public school activities?

Thank you.

Gail Nishimura
Student Activities Coordinator
Mililani High School

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 3:37 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: Linda_Kawana@notes.k12.hi.us
Subject: Testimony for SB871 on 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM SB871

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Linda Kawana
Organization: Mililani High School
Address: 95-1200 Meheula Pkwy Mililani, HI
Phone: 808-627-4228
E-mail: Linda_Kawana@notes.k12.hi.us
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

Comments:

Extra recordkeeping. No accountability. Earn your "right to participate" in the school system by full participation in the education process. Nothing is FREE in life.

Oppose SB 871

Erin Conner

From: Cynthia_Tong/MILILANH/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2011 12:30 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Subject: Testimony Against SB871 and SB1374

Legislators,

I am a public school teachers with 16 years of service in the Hawaii DOE and currently teach at Mililani High School. I went to Hawaii public schools and graduated from Aiea High School, I have taught in four public secondary schools and three private secondary schools on Oahu. SB 871 and SB1374 should NOT be passed for the following reasons:

1) Philosophy: When parents choose to homeschool their children, they make a specific choice to opt out of the public education experience, which includes co-curricular activities such as student activities, clubs, and athletics. The Hawaii DOE has already recognized that participation in student activities and athletics is a privilege and not a right and public school students and their parents know and recognize this premise. We teachers are reminded of this every week as we sign dozens of grade checks (based on state-mandated standards) over the course of a year and these weekly grade checks determine a student's eligibility to participate. Additionally, at Mililani High School, we hold our students to certain codes of behavior such as the Character Counts program. As a Honors and Advanced Placement teacher, I have had several students who returned to public school from homeschooling and they were, overwhelmingly, not prepared to participate in the social mores and accepted behaviors expected in or out of the classroom. By and large, they were slow to acclimate and largely unsuccessful in both the academic and social realms of public school. Will these homeschooled students be ready to follow the social rules and mores of a educational setting from which their parents chose to exclude them? I have already seen cases where previously homeschooled students behaved poorly in a co-curricular activity because they were not accustomed to the unspoken social rules which occur in student interest groups and athletics.

2) Funding: SB871 and SB1374 state that homeschooled students will pay any applicable fees for co-curricular activities. Most co-curricular activities are partially funded or supported by student government dues (both class and school) and the Parent Teacher Student Organizations (PTSO). For example, Mililani High School students in several co-curricular programs receive support from the Associated Students of Mililani High School student government and from the PTSO for meetings, outings, and travel. Sophomore Banquets, Junior Proms, and Senior Proms are all partially underwritten by class dues to the tune of tens of thousands of dollars each year because for such events, costs must be paid in advance. Will homeschooled students pay those class and student association dues and will their parents also join the PTSO? Will homeschooled students also participate in fundraising efforts required by most of the clubs and athletics, the funds of which go to support all of the club and athletic members?

3) Accepting homeschooled students into student interest clubs and activities places an unfair burden on teachers who are club advisors and chaperones. Virtually all teachers who are club advisors volunteer their services and dedicate many extra hours (including weekends and school breaks) to guiding and supervising students in these clubs. When a homeschooled student comes in who is unfamiliar with school procedures and rules, it is a burden for the teacher advisor to instruct them and furthermore, the customary modes of communication are not available to the teacher advisor. Most club advisors utilize the school daily bulletin (audio and/or hardcopy) or school webpage to alert and inform their club members. Because homeschoolers will not have access to these (as unregistered students), the teacher/advisor must take additional time and use additional resources to alert and inform them. Whenever there are school social functions such as Homecoming or prom, teacher chaperones are recruited and used primarily because they recognize their students on sight,

have rapport with them, and such students are much less likely to misbehave because they know the teachers. For these reasons, our school does not permit unregistered student guests at specific events. If a homeschooled student attends a Homecoming or prom, they are not recognizable to the school's teacher chaperones and the level of authority and safety for the event is hampered.

It seems unfair and unjust to require public schools to accept homeschooled students into co-curricular activities when the public school must shoulder all the responsibility and burden of hidden costs, safety, socialization and due process.

Cynthia Tong
Social Studies
Mililani High School
995-1200 Meheula Parkway
Mililani, HI 96789
(808) 627--7747 ext. 74312

Erin Conner

From: Holly_Soria/KAIMUKH/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 5:22 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Subject: SB 871

Friday, 2/11/2011
Senate Education Committee
1:15 p.m.
Room 225

I do not support SB 871.

When parents make a conscious choice to home school their children, they choose to opt out of the public education experience, which includes co-curricular activities. Co-curricular activities in the public school include student activities and athletics, which support the public school academic experience.

Parents who choose to home school their children choose an alternative to the public school academic program, and also choose an alternative to the privileges (student activities and athletics) provided in the public school system. There are many activities/organizations available in the community for the home-schooled child.

Parents should be held accountable for their decisions. Opting out of the public school experience includes both academic **and** co-curricular activities. Parents of home-schooled children should not be permitted to pick and choose components of systems at their whim. Public school personnel should not be responsible for home-schooled children.

I respectfully ask that you do **not** support **SB 871**.

Best regards,
Holly Honbo

Student Activities Coordinator
Kaimuki High School
2705 Kaimuki Ave.
Honolulu, HI 96816
(808) 733-4900 ext. 243

THE SENATE

THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 11, 2011

TIME: 1:15PM

PLACE Conference Room 225
: State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony regarding SB 871 Extracurricular Activities

Dear Senator's,

Please accept this as my written testimony in support of SB 871 regarding extracurricular activities for home schooled students.

Children across the United States have equal access to these activities because these states see the value in investing in their youth without holding back. Over half of the United States offers equal access to their home schooled students without any conflicts or strains to the Department of Education.

Please give the children of Hawaii the same consideration and push this bill through. We have many "Tim Tebow's" within our state, many gifted athletes that are being educated at home would make our state proud if they were allowed the opportunity to extracurricular activities. There is a small percentage of families that would take advantage of this equal access thus be assured that it would not cause any huge detriment to the overall system here. The biggest obstacle would be for peoples attitudes to shift in realizing that this is a good thing for our state's youth and that in no way would it be a burden.

Time and time again our children's coaches and those other home schooling families we know get very positive feedback with regard to how well behaved these students are, that their level of respect for the coaches and teammates as well as their attentiveness are huge strengths brought to the overall success of the team they are on. This is seen in paddling, basketball, archery to name a few.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration in moving this bill forward. We appreciate all that you do to better the opportunities for our keiki here in Hawaii.

Lissa Cockett
Oahu

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2011 10:01 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: web@cartoonistforchrist.org
Subject: Testimony for SB871 on 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM SB871

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lee McIntosh
Organization: Individual
Address: 94-1667 Haehae Loop Naalehu, HI
Phone: 808-929-9872
E-mail: web@cartoonistforchrist.org
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee On Education:

Aloha, my name is Lee McIntosh. I live in Kau on the Big Island. I am in favor of SB 871, which would allow home schoolers to participate in public school extracurricular activities. I was home schooled from sixth through twelfth grade, my last two years being in Kailua on Oahu (my Father was in the military). None of the public schools that we lived near allowed us to participate in any activities, despite the fact that we were required to report to that school on our progress depending on the rules set forth in that area. This bill creates a great opportunity for Hawaii to further support home schooling students, that will allow them to interact with other students their own age with similar interests, as well as allow public schools to benefit from the talents of students that they are responsible for keeping progress on. I hope the committee will support this and other measures that support home schooling families. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify about SB 871.

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 04, 2011 9:02 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: ehm1972@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Testimony for SB871 on 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM SB871

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Elizabeth H. Molina
Organization: Individual
Address: Ventura Ca
Phone: 805.889.4834
E-mail: ehm1972@sbcglobal.net
Submitted on: 2/4/2011

Comments:

I hereby give my support of this bill. As a UH alumni, a school teacher and a parent that supports homeschooling I feel strongly that ALL students, regardless of their school environment, should have the opportunity to participate in public school sports and most definitely as their parents are taxpayers supporting the public school system but not using it otherwise.

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 04, 2011 5:58 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: msdelmundo@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB871 on 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 2/11/2011 1:15:00 PM SB871

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lailanie
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: msdelmundo@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2011

Comments:

February 9, 2011

To: Senator Jill Tokuda
Members of the Committee on Education

From: Kayla Avega
Kalaheo High School, Grade 11

Subject: Opposition of SB871

Hi, my name is Kayla Avega; I'm currently a junior of Kalaheo High School and I'm a member of the student council (ASK). I don't believe in home school students participating in public school extracurricular activities.

Public school students in Hawaii are under the Chapter 19 disciplinary code. If a home school student attends an activity at the school they are supposed to go to, the school is responsible for his/her actions but he/she is not covered under Chapter 19. For example, if a home school student attends to prom and he/she is drunk, the school administrators can't do anything because this student is not under Chapter 19. However, public school students in the same situation can be suspended under the Chapter 19 disciplinary code.

It is unfair to public school students to allow home school students to participate in sports. Public school students must follow the 2.0 rule and pay school fees. Home school students don't pay fees and don't have grade checks. Home school students need to follow the same requirements.

Thank you so much for your time. I hope that you'll take action and oppose SB871.

February 9, 2011

To: Representative Roy Takumi
Members of the Committee on Education

From: Wren Fukada
Kalaheo High School, Grade 11

Subject: Opposition of SB871

Hello, my name is Wren Fukada; I'm currently a junior at Kalaheo High School and I'm also member of the student council (ASK). I am opposing Sb871.

Public school students in Hawaii are under the Chapter 19 disciplinary code. A home school student who attends a public school event is not covered under Chapter 19. If a home school student misbehaves and or breaks rules school administrators cannot enforce Chapter 19 disciplinary action. However, public school students in the same situation can be disciplined under the Chapter 19.

It is unfair to public school students to allow home school students to participate in sports. Public school students must follow the 2.0 rule and pay school fees. Home school students don't pay fees and don't have grade checks. Why should home school students be allowed to participate without these requirements?

Please do not pass SB871. Thank you for your consideration.