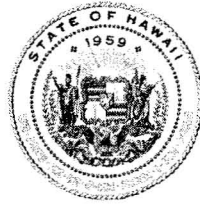
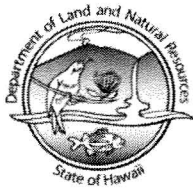


NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
WATER, LAND, AND OCEAN RESOURCES**

**Friday, February 11, 2011  
8:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 625, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO EDUCATION**

House Bill 625, House Draft 1 requires the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Chairperson), upon recommendation and approval of the Department of Education (DOE) Superintendent, to accept the transfer from the DOE to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) any state land under DOE's jurisdiction and set forth priorities for alternate uses. The Department supports this measure.

In particular, the Department supports the amendments to Section 171-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes, proposed in House Bill 625, House Draft 1. Once lands are returned to the Department, proceeds resulting from future dispositions of the lands would support the Department and the Special Land Development Fund (SLDF). The SLDF provides financial support critical for the Department to fulfill its fiduciary duty, including but not limited to the management and preservation of the State's cultural, historic and natural resources.

**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**GUY H. KAULUKUKUI**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING

FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAIHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Date:** 02/11/2011

**Committee:** House Water, Land & Ocean  
Resources

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

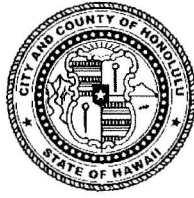
**Title of Bill:** HB 0625,HD1(hscr87) RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Requires land and facilities under the jurisdiction of the DOE not being used to be transferred to the DLNR; provided that the land or facilities is first offered to, or used for charter schools, other educational purposes, or to an eligible county where the land or facility is situated.

**Department's Position:** The DOE supports this bill as amended in HD1.  
Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 \* HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
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PETER B. CARLISLE  
MAYOR

February 11, 2011

The Honorable Jerry Chang, Chair  
House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources  
Twenty-Sixth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2011  
State of Hawaii

**RE: Testimony of Mayor Peter Carlisle on H.B. 625, H.D. 1; Relating to Education**

Chair Chang and members of the House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources, Mayor Peter Carlisle submits the following comments on H.B. 625, H.D. 1.

The purpose of this bill is to require that land and facilities under the jurisdiction of the DOE that is not being used for school purposes to be transferred to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) provided that the land or facilities are first offered to charter schools or other educational program and then to the county in which the land or building is located if the county is willing to accept the land and the land was previously under the jurisdiction of the county.

A significant portion of public schools on Oahu, sit on land owned by the county; the Department of Education has the use of a possessory interest in the school facilities and grounds located on county land. However, as the Department of Education (DOE) has on occasion relinquished its possessory interest in these properties as the DOE has realigned its schools to meet district demands and the lands already go back to the counties since the county has the actual title to the lands. When these properties have been returned to the county, we have been able to find other uses for them which improve the surrounding communities or assist the county in carrying out its functions.

As we understand the bill, it permits the transfer of state land back to the county if: 1) a charter school or other educational program does not want it; 2) the county wants it; and 3) the state land was previously under county jurisdiction. We have no objection to this provision if the bill is as we understand it. However, if the bill is intended to affect the transfer of county owned land back to the county after the DOE does not need the land for school purposes, then we would have concerns about this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



# Ho'okāko'o Corporation

Transforming Public Education  
in Hawai'i's High-Need Communities for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Testimony to the House Committee on Water, Land & Ocean Resources  
Representative Jerry L. Chang, Chair  
Representative Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

Re: HB 625 HD 1 – Relating to Education

Friday, February 11, 2011, 8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee:

Aloha, my name is Megan McCorriston, executive director of Ho'okāko'o Corporation (HC), a 501(c)(3) charter support organization that serves as the local school board for three public conversion charter schools — Waimea Middle School on Hawai'i Island, Kualapu'u Elementary School on Moloka'i, and Kamaile Academy in Wai'anae — which educate nearly 1,600 students, or roughly 19 percent of the total public charter school student population in Hawai'i.

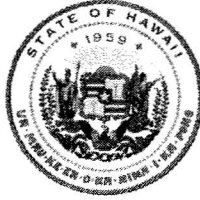
Ho'okāko'o Corporation supports House Bill 625, House Draft 1 – Relating to Education, which proposes to make land and school facilities under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) that have long been unused for school purposes available for the use of public charter schools and other educational programs.

All of HC's public charter schools share a vision of a comprehensive educational experience that involves a rich offering of academic and enrichment programs and a variety of learning environments for learners of all ages. Although each of HC's public charter schools has its own unique plan for making this vision a reality, all three schools — as well as the students, families, and communities that they serve — have a strong interest in expanding their instructional space and the number of grade levels that they teach; however, the growth and development of these schools, like the rest of the State's public charter schools, are severely constrained by the availability of land and facilities.

By giving public charter schools an opportunity to make use of unutilized HIDOE land and any of its pre-existing school buildings and facilities, HB 625 HD1 would not only keep land designated for educational purposes in active use by public schools, but it would also open up significant possibilities for the growth of all of Hawai'i's public charter schools.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



ROGER MCKEAGUE  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TESTIMONY

STATE OF HAWAII  
CHARTER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Tel: 586-3775 Fax: 586-3776

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**FOR:** HB 625 HD1 Relating to Education  
**DATE:** Friday, February 11, 2011  
**TIME:** 8:30 a.m.  
**COMMITTEE(S):** Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources  
**ROOM:** Conference Room 325  
**FROM:** Roger McKeague, Interim Executive Director

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Testimony in support of the intent of H.B. No. 625 H.D. No. 1

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee:

Aloha, I am Roger McKeague, interim executive director of the Charter School Administrative Office ("CSAO"). I want to thank the chair and the entire committee for the time and effort being spent addressing the facilities needs for public charter schools.

This bill enables the transfer of DOE lands to the DLNR provided that charter schools or other education programs be given the highest priority as an alternative use of these lands prior to their transfer.

The CSAO would ask that line 1 of page 7 of the draft be amended by replacing "is" with "*shall first be*".

The CSAO continues to support the intent of this bill and any others that seek to provide charter schools with additional opportunities for access to facilities.

The CSAO is ready, willing, and able to help with any language that will strengthen this bill as it advances forward. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.