

SCR 43

Measure Title: ENCOURAGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL CAMPUSES THAT HAVE SMALLER STUDENT ENROLLMENTS TO BE USED FOR AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS, SENIOR CENTERS, AND OTHER KUPUNA-RELATED PROGRAMS TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS AND AVOID THE CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS.

Report Title: Kupuna Caucus; School Closure; Senior Services

Description:

Companion:

Package: . Kupuna

Current Referral: HMS, EDU

Introducer(s): CHUN OAKLAND, ESPERO, FUKUNAGA, GREEN, Baker, Galuteria, Ihara, Shimabukuro, Taniguchi

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
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**Testimony Supporting the Intent of SCR 43
ENCOURAGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL CAMPUSES THAT HAVE SMALLER
STUDENT ENROLLMENTS TO BE USED FOR AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE
CENTERS, SENIOR CENTERS, AND OTHER KUPUNA-RELATED PROGRAMS TO
MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS AND AVOID THE CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS**

**Senate Committee on Human Services
Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Sen. Les Ihara, Vice Chair**

**Testimony of Wes Lum
Director, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to Department of Health**

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

10:00 a.m., conference Room 224

- 1 Chair Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Senate Human Services Committee,
- 2 thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 43.
- 3 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) supports the intent of this resolution
- 4 provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace priorities within our Supplemental Budget
- 5 Request.
- 6 **Purpose and Justification:** This resolution encourages that the Board of Education and
- 7 Department of Education allow public school campuses that have smaller student enrollments to
- 8 be used for Aging and Disability Resource Centers, senior centers, and other kupuna-related
- 9 programs to meet community needs and avoid the closure of schools. As we enter the baby boom
- 10 era (birth years 1946-1964) when the large number of children born in 1946 turn 65 years of age,

1 the older generation will begin to increase rapidly, along with the demand for existing programs
2 and services. Allowing portions of school facilities to be used for kupuna-related programs would
3 help alleviate some of the projected demand for kupuna-related services, while helping public
4 school campuses with smaller student enrollments avoid closure. We appreciate the intent of this
5 resolution to look for additional resources to assist our kupuna. Thank you for the opportunity to
6 testify.