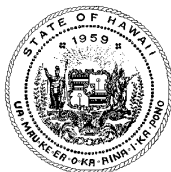


SB237

Relating to Public School
Lands

EDU, WAM



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

Monday, January 28, 2013, 1:15 PM
State Capitol Room 414

Testimony of
Policy Office of the Governor, State of Hawaii

To the Senate Committee on Education
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair, Education Committee
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair, Education Committee

SB 237 - Relating to Public School Lands

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to support Senate Bill 237 (SB237). The bill would enable a public-private partnership that allows the Department of Education to lease underutilized lands to generate income to be used to upgrade existing schools or construct new schools. The Governor supports the purpose of the bill but prefers the Governor's bill, Senate Bill 1096 (SB1096), as a vehicle for redevelopment of public school lands to support 21st century schools.

As Governor Neil Abercrombie mentioned in his State of the State address, "our public schools are on average 65 years old, and many facilities have been ignored due to limited budgets. That means students learning in structures that do not reflect our modern information and technology age." A public-private partnership described in SB237 and SB1096 "builds long-term value for local school communities, which benefit from better school facilities, multi-purpose community centers, workforce housing, or other needs as determined by a cross-section of the community."

"Success will require a community-based policy and planning approach. Any use of public lands must be compatible with and provide benefits to the surrounding community. Teachers, administrators, students, parents, community residents and other stakeholders (must) play a meaningful role in the planning, design and partnership between the school and its surrounding community."

The Governor looks forward to the continued dialog about this promising initiative.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 01/28/2013

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0237 RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDS.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a three-year pilot program to generate revenue for the use of public school land. Specifies that the lieutenant governor, in consultation with the department of education, board of education, and other appropriate agencies, shall be the facilitator of the pilot program. Authorizes the lease of certain public school lands for public purposes, including but not limited to the development of workforce housing rental units, under specified conditions. Establishes the school facilities special fund within chapter 302A, HRS. Repeals the schools facilities special fund in chapter 171C, HRS. Requires the lieutenant governor to submit a report to the legislature. Makes an appropriation for the pilot program. Pilot program repeals 6/30/2016.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (DOE) supports this bill. The DOE appreciates the challenges in bringing our schools up to 21st Century standards and the costs involved in such an undertaking. Because this bill creates a three (3) year pilot program, it presents an opportunity to analyze options that may be available to create a new revenue source for new school construction.

Because the Lieutenant Governor shall serve as the facilitator of the pilot program, the DOE will work closely with the Lieutenant Governor to determine the most appropriate options to identify DOE schools that would be deemed appropriate as signature projects for this pilot. The DOE supports the creation of a school facilities special fund administered by the DOE into which any proceeds from this pilot will be deposited. These funds are to be used for new construction, upgrade of twenty-first century school facilities and repair and maintenance of existing school facilities.

The DOE believes that the provisions of this bill will enable the DOE to take advantage of all options available to it as it strives to align our facilities with 21st Century learning concepts, which will in turn establish the blueprint for the entire DOE inventory.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.



1003 Bishop Street • Suite 765 • Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 585-7931 • Fax: 585-7932 • www.hipaonline.com

Senate Committee on Education
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair

SB237: Relating to Public School Lands

Testimony of
Jeanne Schultz Afuvai
Executive Vice President

Monday, January 28, 2013 at 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 414

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani and members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs **supports** Senate Bill 237, which would establish a three-year pilot program within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor to allow for the limited lease of public school lands and facilities under the authority of the Department of Education to generate revenue for the school facilities special fund.

By way of background, in 2009, HIPA initiated the 21st Century Schools Initiative, a research and community-based effort to develop an innovative, systemic, and practicable approach to upgrade and construct 21st century schools on a statewide basis. Recognizing that public funds are severely limited, HIPA is currently engaged in a public-private partnership with the Department of Education and various stakeholders centered on the following outcomes:

- Developing a new revenue source for new school construction and modernization of 21st century schools;
- Initiating a statewide rebuilding and modernization of Hawai'i's aging public schools that foster 21st century teaching and learning;
- Engaging and empowering more than 181,000 students, nearly 14,000 teachers, all communities statewide, and thousands of key stakeholders to support and improve school facilities in Hawai'i;
- Creating approximately 200,000 construction, maintenance, and similar jobs with urban redevelopment and public-private partnerships using vacant and underused public school lands (estimate courtesy of Rebuilding America's Schools Coalition);
- Facilitating statewide urban renewal and provide sources for economic development and security in all communities, while promoting sustainable economic development;
- Ensuring a fair and equal distribution of new revenue sources through a system-wide long-range plan for rebuilding Hawai'i's public school facilities; and
- Lifting student achievement, including among disadvantaged populations in underserved communities.

Pilot projects for this initiative are essential. We strongly agree with the need to test and evaluate development, design and financial models, and to give communities the opportunity to provide input and understand the concept of 21st century learning and facilities. We also respectfully encourage this Committee to add enabling legislation that would also create a systemic approach to modernize the entire system. The pilot projects can occur simultaneously with a system-wide plan, which, for all intents and purposes, will take two to three years to be established and implemented in any event. Once the pilot projects are completed during that period and learning and best practices are evaluated, the State will be in a position to implement this program on a statewide basis.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

BIA-HAWAII

BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

"Building Better Communities"

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Testimony to the Senate Committee on Education

Monday, January 28, 2013

1:15 p.m.

State Capitol - Conference Room 414

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 237, RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDS

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the committees:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Government Relations Director for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii), the voice of the construction industry. We promote our members through advocacy and education, and provide community outreach programs to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit professional trade organization chartered in 1955, affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA-Hawaii supports S.B. No. 237, with certain amendments. The bill proposes to establish a three-year pilot program to generate revenue for the use of public school lands. The bill specifies that the lieutenant governor, in consultation with the department of education, board of education, and other appropriate agencies, shall be the facilitator of the pilot program. It also authorizes the lease of certain public school lands for public purposes including, but not limited to, the development of workforce housing rental units, under specified conditions.

The bill also proposes to amend Chapter 302A HRS, which governs the board of education. We strongly support the proposal to involve the Lieutenant Governor as certain aspects of this initiative will probably involve multiple agencies. Having an entity with the authority and ability to work with multiple agencies will ensure a higher probability of success.

One suggestion to improve the bill would be to provide some level of funding to the Lieutenant Governor's office that would allow for the hiring of consultants to assist in the analysis and selection of the appropriate sites, and to develop a process to select a developer/investor that is inclusive and transparent to the public. While government agencies may have certain skill sets and processes for disposition of public lands, redevelopment of underutilized school sites may require additional expertise in marketing, economic analysis, and entitlements.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.



HAWAI'I EDUCATIONAL POLICY CENTER TESTIMONY

Presented by Jim Shon, Director
Hawaii Educational Policy Center
January 30, 2013

COMMITTEE: Senate Education
DATE: January 28, 2013
TIME: 1:15 pm
PLACE: Conference Room 414

RE: SB 237 RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDS

POSITION: HEPC supports this bill in concept

COMMENTS:

HEPC supports the wise and productive use of unused land that is not currently of use for departmental public education.

HEPC respectfully suggests that your committee consider that the leasing of such land to a charter school's affiliated nonprofit organization could be designated as a high priority.

Forging a partnership with nonprofits that support charter school facility needs would be a very cost effective strategy to supplement public school capacity and provide facility support for charters. HEPC notes that the estimated cost of a new HIDOE school on Maui is \$130 million. This is in contrast to a number of nonprofits assisting charters who estimate their costs of a new campus at approximately \$10-13 million.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. HEPC stands ready to provide analysis and research for bills and issues before the Legislature.



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Education
Monday, January 28, 2013
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol - Conference Room 414**

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 237, RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDS

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii supports S.B. No. 237 with certain amendments. The bill proposes to establish a three-year pilot program to generate revenue for the use of public school land. The bill specifies that the lieutenant governor, in consultation with the department of education, board of education, and other appropriate agencies, shall be the facilitator of the pilot program. It also authorizes the lease of certain public school lands for public purposes, including but not limited to the development of workforce housing rental units, under specified conditions.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing more than 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of its members, which employ more than 200,000 individuals, to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The bill proposes to amend Chapter 302A HRS which governs the Board of Education. We strongly support the proposal to involve the Lieutenant Governor as certain aspects of this initiative will probably involve multiple agencies. Having an entity with the authority and ability to work with multiple agencies will ensure a higher probability of success.

One suggestion to improve the bill would be to provide some level of funding to the Lieutenant Governor's office that would allow for hiring of consultants to assist in the analysis and selection of the appropriate sites, and developing a process to select a developer/investor that is inclusive and transparent to the public. While government agencies may have certain skill sets and processes for disposition of public lands, redevelopment of underutilized school sites may require additional expertise in marketing, economic analysis and entitlements.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Senate Committee on Education
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

January 27, 2013

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support of SB237 with suggested amendments.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

The Coalition has been following the issue of our aging facilities and the need to find creative solutions to finance and rebuild our schools. The Coalition has hosted several speakers discussing 21st Century School design, mainland efforts to address school facilities, and local organizations working to find creative options. We are very pleased to see the legislature support the concept of using underutilized school lands to fund new school construction statewide through a Pilot Program.

We would ask that the Committee consider the following amendments in moving the bill along:

1. Specify that the pilot program include the development of design specifications for 21st Century Schools to be used as a template for future campuses
2. Specify that school and community engagement be a required component of the Pilot Project both in the design and development of new schools and in the proposed uses on the leased lands
3. Specify that uses on the underutilized school lands be compatible with surrounding land use and zoning (some school property may need zone changes to be redeveloped and the proposed zoning should be compatible with the surrounding existing zoning designations)

4. Specify that early learning centers along with K-12 facilities could be included in the Pilot Program.
5. Request that the lieutenant governor's report include information on school and community engagement efforts in the pilot program.

We would be glad to work with the legislature, department, board of education, the lieutenant governor, and any other appropriate agencies to make this effort successful.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration.

Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership. While the majority of the Coalition members supported this bill, Parents for Public Schools could not come to a consensus to support this position.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

HE'E Member List

Academy 21

After-School All-Stars Hawaii

Alliance for Place Based Learning

*Castle Complex Community Council

Center for Civic Education

Coalition for Children with Special Needs

*DOE Windward District

*Faith Action for Community Equity

Fresh Leadership LLC

Girl Scouts Hawaii

*Good Beginnings Alliance

Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice

Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars

*Hawai'i Charter School Network

*Hawai'i Education Matters

*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

*Hawaii State PTSA

Hawai'i State Student Council

Hawai'i State Teachers Association

Hawai'i P-20

Hawai'i 3Rs

Head Start Collaboration Office

It's All About Kids

*INPEACE

Joint Venture Education Forum

Kamehameha Schools

*Kanu Hawai'i

Kupu A'e

*Leaders for the Next Generation

McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

*Our Public School

*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

*Parents and Children Together

*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program

Teach for America

The Learning Coalition

US PACOM

University of Hawai'i College of Education

YMCA of Honolulu

Voting Members (*)



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Legislative Director

TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 237, RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDS

**Senate Committee on Education
Hon. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Hon. Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair**

**Monday, January 28, 2013, 1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 414**

Honorable Chair Tokuda and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing the IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 150 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of Senate Bill 237, relating to public school lands.

On average, Hawaii's public school buildings are over 65 years in age, with the state's per-capita capital improvement spending ranking last in the nation. No one should have been surprised, then, when the roof of Farrington High School's auditorium collapsed due to a combination of degradation and design flaws. Given the dearth of funds available for infrastructure improvements on public school campuses throughout the state, as well a relative lack of affordable and workforce housing, we support this initiative, which establishes a pilot program that seeks to generate revenue for school improvements through the leasing and optimization of unused public school lands, with development priority being given to workforce rental housing projects. Moreover, we note that this measure address concerns raised by the DOE in previous years with regard to similar proposals by decreasing the number of piloted leases from ten to two, while appropriating funds for necessary preparations, including feasibility studies and the evaluation of site-specific requests for proposals (though these two cost items are not specifically enumerated in the appropriation request).

That said, we also note, with prior City and County of Honolulu administrators, that the rental units foreseen by this bill revert back to the DOE after the lease term ends. If the DOE should continue to rent the units after this point, the respective counties in which the developments are built will not receive any further property taxes on the land. Both the truncation of property taxes to the counties and potential lack of expertise regarding building, and specifically workforce rental housing, management may need to be addressed by the committee as the measure moves forward during the legislative session. After all, no one wants to unnecessarily encumber management of the DOE's already strained infrastructure portfolio or see the roofs of workforce rental housing collapse because of decades of neglected maintenance.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Legislative Director
IMUAlliance



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

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Honolulu, HI 96808-0917

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YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM

PRESIDENT

Kurt Nagamine

e-mail: knagamine@ascehawaiiymf.org

January 28, 2013

Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair,
Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair,
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

I am testifying in support for Senate Bill 237, Relating to Public School Lands

Since 1999, ASCE has prepared reports on the state of the nation’s infrastructure, including schools. The 2009 report graded schools at a “D”. An earlier 1999 report by the General Accounting Office estimated one third of the nations schools are in need of repair estimated at \$112 billion. Although there is no comprehensive federal report on the condition of schools, it is clear the schools in Hawaii are faced with a long list of repairs and renewals based on the Department of Education maintenance backlog of projects. Surveys conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics determined the extent to which environmental conditions of old facilities contributed to interterence to classroom instruction.

Among the many solutions recommended by ASCE, the financial shortfall could be assisted by encouraging school districts to explore alternative financing, including lease financing and financing/ownership/use arrangements to facilitate construction. Hawaii should urge Congress to continue and increase federal grants for high-poverty, high-need school districts.

Senate Bill 237 would provide a three-year pilot project to generate revenues through the lease of public school lands. The revenues would be deposited in a School Facilities Special Fund dedicated to new construction and upgrades as well as repairs and maintenance of schools. Funds should be managed through the use of life-cycle cost analyse principles to evaluate the total cost of projects.

We strongly urge your support for Senate Bill 237. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important legislation for the improvement of our educational system.

Owen Miyamoto, P.E.
Local Legislative Liaison
ASCE Hawaii Section
3209 Paty Drive
Honolulu, HI 96822-1439
(808) 988-6029
Email: owen@hawaii.edu



Civil Engineers – Designers and Builders of the Quality of Life



HAROLD K.L. CASTLE
FOUNDATION

January 28, 2013

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
and Members - Senate Committee on Education
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB237 RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDS

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This testimony is submitted in support of SB237.

The global economy has changed, job qualifications have changed, and, as a result, public education must change. There is a significant need for new physical structures and for the building, repairing and retrofitting of public schools to meet the needs of Hawaii's future and the global economy. In fact, the needs exceed our State's resources.

Other communities have used redevelopment of valuable school sites to produce new school facilities and resources through additional development on school property. Hawaii needs to do the same. The undersigned supports SB237 for this purpose. There is controversy in our State about the Public Lands Development Corporation (PLDC) and development of State lands. The instant legislation addresses this concern by limiting the authorization to two projects. A two project pilot with a limited number of projects is a good idea on which Hawaii can experience this kind of program.

The legislation places the pilot under the Office of the Lt. Governor and, in the view of the writer, this is a good use of the Office of the Lt. Governor so long as decisions on which sites are available for the pilot projects are made by the Board of Education. Workforce housing is a need in our community and while housing works well with school facilities in a mixed use development, the projects contemplated by the pilot should not be limited to workforce housing. The bill allows flexibility in this regard.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your kind consideration of these matters.

Very truly yours,

H. Mitchell D'Olier
President and
Chief Executive Officer



*In the spirit of 'ohana,
we are all parents
of the children of Hawai'i*

Parents for Public Schools of Hawai'i

2850 Kahawai Street

Honolulu, HI 96822

Phone: 375-3917

Email: ppshi.org@gmail.com

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

January 27, 2013

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted to express concern with SB237, as it is currently written.

Parents for Public Schools of Hawai'i (PPSHI) is the Hawai'i chapter of the national organization Parents for Public Schools. We are a non-profit organization that strives to engage parents, students, and community members across the State in supporting enriched and quality public education through (1) effective communication between families, community, and schools, (2) greater awareness of educational policies and practices, (3) community involvement in education and decision making that promotes school support, improvement, and student achievement, and (4) accurate media representation of public education.

PPSHI has two primary concerns about SB237. First, we are concerned that the SB237 does not include a requirement that parents, community members, and school personnel provide input on the design and development of proposed leased land use. We feel that it is important that the needs and concerns of the stakeholders who will be most affected most by the land development are considered. We urge your amendment of the bill to include parent and community engagement as a part of the design and development process.

Secondly, PPSHI would like to see language in the bill that emphasizes that the leased land use will prioritize community and educational purposes. We feel that it is important that community interests are kept at the forefront.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,

Lois A. Yamauchi

President, Parents for Public Schools of Hawai'i



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.538.6616 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

January 28, 2013, 1:15 P.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY COMMENTING ON SB 237

Aloha Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, with over 10,000 dues paying members and supporters statewide, offers the following *comments* regarding SB 237. This measure establishes a program to develop and lease school lands in order to generate revenue for educational purposes.

It is outside the purview of the Sierra Club to comment to address the educational value of this measure.

To the extent this measure has been compared to the Public Lands Development Corporation, we encourage this Committee to carefully ensure that public participation, transparency, and accountability are built into this measure. SB 237, for example, should require all transactions be subject to the procurement code so as to ensure fair bidding and an open process. And require there be public disclosure of any proposed actions to the impacted schools/communities and an open hearing process.

We recognize the actions being proposed may sometimes be contentious, but there is no shortcut to public involvement. Difficult conversations must be had to ensure we're building the type of collaborative and inclusive communities that we all want to live in.

We appreciate this measure does not propose any exemptions to existing land use and environmental laws. We ask the Committee not to alter this commitment.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

January 26, 2013

Senate Committee on Education
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair

Subject: SB237: Relating to Public School Lands - Testimony of Vincent Shigekuni for hearing Monday, January 28, 2013 at 1:15 p.m.

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani and members of the Committee:

I am professional land planner and I attended Kuhio School in Moiliili, and I support Senate Bill 237, which would establish a three-year pilot program to allow for the limited lease of public school lands and facilities under the authority of the Department of Education (DOE) to generate revenue for a school facilities special fund. Such a fund is a critical component of this effort as it will ensure that any revenue generated on public school lands "...will be used to build or upgrade twenty-first century school facilities."

On December 6, 2012 I attended a presentation by the Hawaii Institute of Public Affairs to the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association on the 21st Century Schools Initiative, a forward-thinking approach to upgrade and construct 21st century schools on a statewide basis. I learned of the astounding amount of capital improvements funds that are spent on repair and maintenance of our aging schools each year. I am troubled that our students do not have the proper facilities to be prepared for global competition in the 21st century.

As a professional planner for 30 years, I have always noted that there are many school sites on Oahu that are located on valuable land, which, with public input and sensitively-designed development, could either: 1) generate more income for public schools, and 2) create more up-to-date and relevant school facilities.

Given the possibility of public skepticism, pilot projects for this initiative would demonstrate their potential for application to other public school sites. I respectfully encourage this Committee to give favorable consideration of SB237. We really don't have another alternative for a massive overhaul of public school facilities on the horizon.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Vincent Shigekuni

**Testimony for SB237
Senate Education Committee Hearing
January 28, 2013, 1:15 p.m., Room 414**

January 28, 2013

Senator Tokuda,

I **support** Senate Bill 237, which would establish a three-year pilot program within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor to allow for the limited lease of public school lands and facilities under the authority of the Department of Education to generate revenue for the school facilities special fund.

I am a retired United States Air Force Colonel and was the Military Liaison to the State Board of Education from July 2000 – June 2002, and education has always been one of the top quality of life issues for military families. Part of this issue has been the state of our public school facilities. About 10 years ago, the United States Pacific Command spent a significant amount of federally appropriated monies to build a computer lab for Radford HS. This project entailed upgrading the electrical “backbone” because Radford, along with most other school campuses, was not built to handle the electrical requirements for this lab.

Additionally, the average age of the schools that serve the Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam community is 55 years. Building 21st Century Schools under a public-private initiative is a bold and innovative way to provide our keiki with the school facilities they need so they can compete in the 21st Century economy.

Sincerely

David A. Tom

SB237

Submitted on: 1/27/2013

Testimony for EDU on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noel Kent	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

SB237 is part of a plan conceived by powerful politicians such as the governor in tandem with corporate interests in Hawai'i to privatize public lands for the benefit of private profiteering. The establishment of the PLDC, is, of course, the leading wedge here. These so-called "undeveloped" public lands adjacent to public schools are an integral part of our patrimony in Hawai'i and should be safeguarded for the good of our people, present and future. The notion of awarding long-term leases on these lands with practically no public scrutiny is especially offensive. If these lands are utilized let them be utilized under the schools' auspices to teach young people the skills and value of nurturing garden plots providing healthy food.

Noel Kent Ph.D

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2013 2:53 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: Karen@RedwoodGames.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB237 on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM

SB237

Submitted on: 1/27/2013

Testimony for EDU on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Chun	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do not pass any more of these bills usurping public input and County control of development. 55 year leases? We don't need a bill to remove the one-at-a-time thoughtful consideration and input for projects. Please vote no.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2013 6:17 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: margaretwille@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB237 on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM

SB237

Submitted on: 1/28/2013

Testimony for EDU on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mar	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to this legislation. You gotta be kidding... is my response. Allow private enterprises on our school lands. NO. This is a mini-PLDC take over of our public lands - for so-called public purposes -- made palatable by referencing "workforce housing" as an example. "Workforce housing" is housing for private parties. This example shows the intent to stretch the definition of "public purpose". Then to say the lessee can keep all profits (with certain minimal conditions. And the lease period is 55 years... which you can expect the legislature to extend indefinitely... this would be a give away. How shameful. Margaret Wille, County Council member Hawaii County District 9.

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Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2013 10:09 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: ahmai@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB237 on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM

SB237

Submitted on: 1/27/2013

Testimony for EDU on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Ah Mai	League of Women Voters Hawaii	Comments Only	No

Comments: It would be preferable for the Governor to put forth a more thoughtful, comprehensive package on private partnerships on public lands rather than introducing piecemeal legislation as evidenced by SB237 and HB865, the intertwined HB191 and HB942, and the undetermined status of PLDC. It would not be unreasonable to take the time to do a good job on concept, alternatives, public input, jurisdictional overlaps, and cost/benefits on such an important deviation from the basic educational and maintenance missions of the State government.

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