

SCR148

Chinese Language Curriculum in Public High
Schools
EDU, WAM



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

Date: 03/22/2013

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 148 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH MANDARIN CHINESE LANGUAGE CURRICULUM IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

Purpose of Resolution: Mandarin Chinese In Public High Schools

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) does not support this resolution as a Mandarin Chinese language curriculum for public high schools has already been established. Course offerings are determined at the school level.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: tabraham08@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR148 on Mar 22, 2013 14:05PM
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2013 9:15:23 AM

SCR148

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for EDU on Mar 22, 2013 14:05PM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments: i support urgent passage of bill to put foreign languages in all of hawaiis educational system public,private,or charter

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Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 148
Mandarin Chinese in Public High Schools

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is Rachel Abellera and I am Senior at Radford High School. I am testifying on SCR No. 148 – Mandarin Chinese in Public High Schools. I am in strong support of this resolution.

CNN IBN World News claims:

- The English learning industry in china is worth 2 billion pounds. (3038000.00 US Dollars)
- There are more than 50,000 English training organizations in the country of China.
- In Beijing alone, its estimated 300,000 people will attend English classes a year
- The obsession grows bigger; thousands of Chinese parents send their children to summer camps in the US.
- Speaking and understanding English has its perks in china, it can guarantee you a job.

Corporations in the United States have closed domestic factories and have moved to China. With the cost of production and labor so cheap, we have seen China's economy and net worth grow exponentially. China is closely catching up and overtaking the global economy.

With the implementation of Mandarin Chinese available in Hawaii Public High Schools all over the state it gives students the opportunity to learn the language that is trying to take over theirs.

Right now, this very moment.. China is on its way of becoming the #1 English speaking country. As Americans, English is OUR language, why are we letting another country claim they are #1?

I would have loved to take a Mandarin language class in school, but as a senior in high school that doesn't seem possible. My vision is to see the future generations take on the Mandarin language and play the Chinese at their own game, not because its all about who wins or who's on the top – but to make things economically fair in the future.

If China is really going to overtake the global economy, we should adapt to the language and proceed to business without any misunderstanding or language barriers.

Thank you for taking you time and considering my thoughts on SCR No. 148 – Mandarin Chinese in Public High Schools.

Sincerely
Rachel Abellera
Radford High School