

SCR190/

SR145

21st Century Schools; BOE Policy
EDU/EGH, WAM

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 03/22/2013

Committee: Senate Education/Senate
Economic Development, Government
Operations and Housing

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 190/SR 145 REQUESTING THE HAWAII BOARD OF
EDUCATION TO REVIEW POLICY NO. 6701 IN LIGHT OF THE
STATE'S EFFORT TO RENOVATE AND BUILD TWENTY-FIRST
CENTURY SCHOOLS AND TO REPORT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS
TO THE LEGISLATURE.

**Purpose of
Resolution:** Board of Education; Policy No. 6701 and Section 302A-1602, Hawaii
Revised Statutes; 21st Century Schools

Department's Position:

The DOE appreciates and supports the intent of SCR 190/SR 145 to review both BOE Policy No. 6701 and Section 302A-1602, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The DOE agrees that a review of both would constitute an important step forward as it develops standards for 21st Century educational facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this resolution.



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

Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair

SCR 190/ SR 145: Requesting BOE to Review Policy # 6701

Testimony of
Jeanne Schultz Afuvai
Executive Vice President

Friday, March 22, 2013 at 1:55 p.m.
State Capitol, Auditorium

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

The Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs **supports SCR 190/ SR 145**. A review of the number of acres recommended for public schools in Hawaii needs to be done. The acreage – 12.5 acres for an elementary school, 16.5 acres for an intermediate school and 49 acres for a high school - were recommended over 40 years ago by the Council of Education Facilities Planners International (CEFPI). In informal discussions with CEFPI, the organization noted that the acreage simply does not apply to 21st Century Schools and should no longer be used as the recommended acreage.

According to Mary Filardo of the 21st Century School Fund, Washington D.C. schools are built on ten acres. The Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools in Los Angeles are a complex of six schools with 4200 students on 26 acres of land. Athletic facilities, play areas and green spaces are incorporated into the school site plans. In the case of RFK there is a full-size pool.

The reason for the reduced space is the fact that with increased urban density, schools are being built vertically. This reduces the amount of cabling and duct work needed for internet connectivity, for increased electrical distribution and air conditioning. It is no longer feasible to economically run cable to all the outlying buildings on a 49 acre site. It also means that schools are safer and can go into lock-down mode more quickly. More reasonable acreage also means that landscape maintenance is reduced and upkeep is more economical.

Even rural schools benefit with a more efficient use of the site. Cabling costs for internet and electricity are even more costly on the Neighbor Islands and upkeep of a smaller site uses funds more efficiently.

Well-designed schools can incorporate open areas as well as athletic complexes and play areas. The land that was once underutilized and expensive to maintain can now be used to generate revenue for facilities where 21st Century learning can occur. Our children and our teachers will benefit from a 21st Century learning environment.

We urge the Department of Education to review these out dated standards and review each site according to its requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.