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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1675 on Mar 19, 2014 13:15PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 19, 2014 1:18:00 PM

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**HB1675**

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for EDU on Mar 19, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Liliana Molina	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Currently schools are to meet a total of 1080 hours of instructional hours by school year 16-17. Split amongst 180 and days of school this would require 6 hour days. This I find issue with because this will leave less time to complete homework assignments. Many high school students work, are in sports activities or in student government. As it is high school students spend around 2 hours completing assignments.

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**HB1675**

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for EDU on Mar 19, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren Nahale	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: March 19, 2014 To: Senator Jill Tokuda From: Lauren Nahale & Cyndi Kamauu Subject: For HB 1675 H.D. 1 Aloha, our names are Lauren Nahale and Cyndi Kamauu, we are from Kalaheo and Kailua High school. We strongly believe in HB 1675 H.D. 1 and would like to ask for your support. Currently we are supposed to have one thousand and eighty student instructional hours, and with the school instructional hours of nine hundred ninety, students have the ability for other curricular activities. Including senior project, sports, clubs, leadership and many other programs. If we had the ability to count our sports, clubs, science fair, senior project, etc activities in with the instructional hour's students it could help reach the goal of actually implementing the nine hundred ninety instructional hours. With the stretch from the nine hundred ninety hours to one thousand eighty costs are more of a problem, taxes will rise for our family, friends, and other tax payers. We personally struggle with the hours that we meet at the moment, because of our extracurricular activities. And with the extra hours tacked on sports will end later, and homework will be a problem to manage. Thank you for your time and consideration, and I truly hope you will support HB 1675 H.D 1.

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### **HB1675**

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for EDU on Mar 19, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Zachary Espino	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe that the implementation of 980 instructional hours. Although, some schools have met the 1080 instructional hours, many schools have not achieved that goal yet. Allowing for the Board of Education to redefine "student instructional hours" would create new means of meeting student instructional hours. Various projects like Senior Project or History Projects should all be included as "student instructional hours". This allows for schools and students to meet the required amount of "student instructional hours". Sitting in a class room and being taught by a teacher should NOT be the only mean of "student instructional hours". Other things such as Senior Projects included over 40+ hours to complete from the research to the presentations. If these various outside projects or activities are included in the definition of "student instructional hours", than much more students would be able to meet the required "student instructional hours".

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## LATE TESTIMONY

Good afternoon, Senator Tokuda, Senator Kidani, and members of the Senate Education Committee!

My name is Michelle Fortunato. I am a junior at Kalaheo High School and the Treasurer of Student Government.

It is a pleasure to be here this afternoon and speak to you of my support of House Bill 1675. As it stands right now, all Hawaii public schools are under the obligation to provide a minimum of 1080 instructional hours to their students. As you are surely aware, many schools are struggling to meet this requirement. And it is for what purpose? The initial leap from 915 hours to 1080 added approximately five minutes to each class period. It is hardly imaginable that this would have any substantial effect on students' learning. Despite this, the labor cost of this decision was exponential.

Unarguably there should be some baseline minimum for instructional hours. Otherwise the school board will first and foremost be concerned with monetary facets of the decision and number of school hours will greatly diminish. And there needs to be some degree of consistency between schools. But are more hours necessarily better? Students need to be balanced in their academics as well as their extracurricular activities.