

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

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

**Date:** 02/05/2014

**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 2598 RELATING TO HAWAII 3R'S.

**Purpose of Bill:** Renames the Hawaii 3R's school repair and maintenance fund the Hawaii 3R's school improvement fund. Requires the transfer of moneys collected pursuant to section 235-102.5(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and any other moneys received in the form of grants and donations for school-level improvements and minor repairs and maintenance to the Hawaii 3R's school improvement fund.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education supports this bill. The Department of Education is a part of the Hawaii 3R's Board and reviews all project requests to insure that they are in accordance with our facilities' standards and specifications.

TESTIMONY FOR THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
H.B. 2598, RELATING TO HAWAII 3RS  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5 2014  
2:00 P.M., CONFERENCE ROOM 309

By Ka'iulani de Silva

Director of Education and Consumer Affairs

Hawaiian Electric Company

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno and Members of the House Committee on Education:

My name is Ka'iulani de Silva and I am the Director of Education and Consumer Affairs for Hawaiian Electric Company ("Hawaiian Electric"). Hawaiian Electric supports the intent of House Bill 2598.

For more than a decade, Hawaii 3 R's, a Hawaii nonprofit organization, has provided the valuable service of bringing much needed improvements to the public schools by bringing private financing and human resources together to address the existing repair and maintenance backlog in those institutions. Hawaiian Electric has been an active supporter, providing volunteers and resources to partner with Hawaii 3R's in the repair and maintenance of schools on O'ahu.

We support the proposal to change the name of the fund to the Hawaii 3R's school improvement fund and proposal to transfer moneys to this fund as expressed in H.B. 2598.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Feb. 3 2014

To: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Chair  
Rep. Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair

**Reference: HB 2598**

RELATING TO HAWAII 3R'S.

Dear Representatives Takumi and Ohno:

As a member of Hawaii 3R's board of directors since it's inception I heartily agree with renaming the Hawaii 3R's school repair and maintenance fund to the Hawaii 3R's school improvement fund. I am in favor of the transfer of moneys collected pursuant to section 235-102.5(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and any other moneys received in the form of grants and donations for school-level improvements and minor repairs and maintenance to the Hawaii 3R's school improvement fund.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lynn Watanabe  
62 Puiwa Road  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
808-497-7247

**ohno2-Rexie**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 03, 2014 10:20 PM  
**To:** EDNtestimony  
**Cc:** normansakamoto@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2598 on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM

**HB2598**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

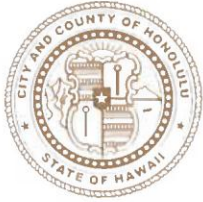
Testimony for EDN on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Norman Sakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support HB2598. I am testifying in full support of HB2598. Hawaii 3R's has been very effective in utilizing volunteers and coordinating community support to repair our schools. This measure will improve the effectiveness of this worthy organization. Please support this bill. Mahalo, Norman Sakamoto

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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**LATE**

**CITY COUNCIL**  
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**STANLEY CHANG**  
*Councilmember – District IV*  
Phone: (808) 768-5004  
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ccldistrict4@honolulu.gov  
www.honolulu.gov/council/d4

February 5, 2014  
TESTIMONY OF STANLEY CHANG  
CONCILMEMBER FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
On  
H.B. No. 2598, RELATING TO HAWAII 3R'S  
Committee on Education  
Wednesday, February 5, 2014  
2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 309

Dear Chair Takumi and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony in support of H.B. 2598 Relating to Hawaii 3R's in my capacity as Councilmember of the City and County of Honolulu.

H.B. 2598 renames the Hawaii 3R's school repair and maintenance fund to the Hawaii 3R's school improvement fund. In addition, it requires the transfer of funds collected from individuals' voluntary donations from their state income tax returns, grants, and donations for school-level improvements, repairs, and maintenance to the Hawaii 3R's school improvement fund.

Hawaii 3R's tackles various backlogged improvement projects that aim to repair, remodel, and restore our schools. This program benefits the state two fold, by improving Department of Education school campuses while at the same time saving money by utilizing donations and grants to fund projects.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for your favorable passage of H.B. 2598 Relating to Hawaii 3R's, and thank the Committee for allowing me to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Stanley Chang  
Councilmember – District IV



LATE TESTIMONY

**Repair, Remodel, Restore Our Schools**

February 4, 2014

The Honorable Roy Takumi, Chair  
House Committee on Education

Chairman Takumi & Committee Members:

HB 2598 – Relating to Hawaii 3R's

We support this measure that will facilitate the administrative transfer of taxpayer contributions from the state DOE to Hawaii 3R's. Those taxpayer contributions will be put to work on behalf of the state DOE in addressing its repair and maintenance backlog at Hawaii's public schools.

Our program works closely with the state DOE to ensure that all projects meet the standards of the DOE and at completion, are accepted by the DOE. You will find few, if any, state projects where volunteers work alongside of professional contractors to complete R&M projects in Hawaii's public schools.

Over the past 13 years, Hawaii 3R's has proven its effectiveness in helping the state DOE to address its R&M backlog. Since 2001, Hawaii 3R's has helped the state to realize a savings of over \$43.0 million. With every state dollar invested in Hawaii 3R's, \$12.00 of work has been completed. The estimated value of completed projects (by Hawaii 3R's) over the past decade is over \$46.5 million.

Background on Hawaii 3R's

The late U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye began Hawaii 3R's in 2001 to address the state's R&M backlog. Since then, Hawaii 3R's has:

- Awarded over 530 grants (totaling more than \$20 million) to 190 different schools on six islands: Oahu, Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, Lanai and Molokai.
- Been instrumental in helping to "link" different schools with community partnerships;

- Been involved in every kind of R&M project imaginable, from painting buildings to re-striping parking lots, planting grass sods and other plants to helping to build science labs.

Hawaii 3R's is grateful to be the beneficiary of the \$2 tax check off on state tax returns, especially with the loss of federal earmarks. However, a seamless transfer of the funds is needed so we can continue to maintain the program's momentum.

Sincerely yours,

Kalowena Komeiji  
Interim Executive Director