



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

LATE

Date: 03/21/2014

Committee: House Health

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 53/HR 35 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONSIDER THE NEED TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM HEAT AND SUN EXPOSURE, IN ADDITION TO RAINFALL, WHEN ASSESSING THE NEED FOR COVERED PLAY YARDS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of this resolution; however, we do not believe it is necessary. Currently the DOE strives to provide shaded areas in the design of new campuses considering both rainfall and sun exposure. The limiting factor is often the budget and indoor instructional and support spaces are the highest priority. At existing schools, R&M concerns have taken precedence over new shade coverings for outdoor play areas, although the DOE looks for opportunities to provide shaded areas where feasible.

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