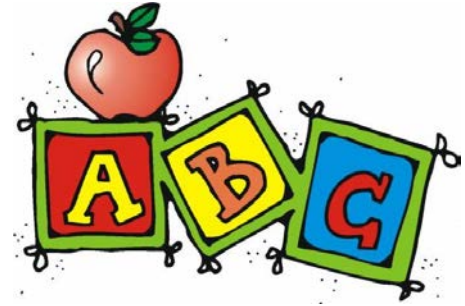


SB2763



Measure Title: RELATING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Report Title: Board of Education; Public Meetings; Oral Testimony

Description: Requires the board of education to allow public testimony on items not on a public meeting agenda if certain requirements are met.

Companion: [HB1672](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: EDU, JDL

Introducer(s): KEITH-AGARAN, Chun Oakland, Kahele, Kouchi



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

Senate Committee on Education
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chairperson
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chairperson

Friday, February 7, 2014
1:30 p.m.
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 414

Testimony of Don G. Horner, Chairperson

Comments to SB 2763, Relating to the Board of Education

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments to SB 2763 which requires the Board of Education (the "**Board**") to allow public testimony on items not on a public meeting agenda if certain requirements are met.

The appointed Board since inception has placed a high priority upon stakeholder and community engagement. We spent 18 months engaging various stakeholder communities statewide in the development of the Board/Department of Education ("**BOE/DOE**") strategic plan. We have conducted 15 evening community meetings throughout the state which is nearly double the number of meetings required by law. Our nine volunteer Board members have visited over 200 schools and attended over 400 community stakeholder meetings throughout the state. Additionally, the Board has held 169 committee and board meetings. All meetings have been open to the public and the meeting agenda allows for public testimony at the beginning of the meetings and prior to action items on the agenda.

The board has expanded the opportunity for the public to send emails to the Board via the website as well as make phone calls to the Board office. All complaints are shared with all Board members and require a response within specific guidelines. Additionally, the BOE/DOE established an independent "hotline" for members of the public to anonymously express concerns. These are all recorded and an audit trail has been established. Also, to allow for concerns or recommendations to be expressed in private from parents, employees and general public, our Board has established "chair office hour". These times are available after every General Business Meeting (2 times per month) and typically from 4:30-5:30 p.m. which allows for parents and employees to come after work. Additionally, we have added to the permanent Board agenda, a monthly Complex Area presentation with specific metrics and performance data so that each Board meeting allocates time for our 15 community complexes to specifically discuss their individual issues with the Complex Area Superintendent ("**CAS**"). This allows any community member to come and testify on any subject within their school complex with the CAS and senior DOE staff as well as the Board members present.

We are in the process of reviewing all of our Board policies and are in the process of first seeking public input prior to any revisions. A good example, is a review of policy 2105 which concerns our Hawaiian Immersion program. In order to gain community input on this important subject the Board established a stakeholder working group and has conducted and attended over 40 community meetings and school visits statewide. Sex education is another example of where recently the Board dedicated the bulk of a Board meeting time to seek public input before reviewing changes to our current sex education policies. Again, a public stakeholder meeting is being formed by the DOE to ensure public input is considered.

Our DOE/BOE strategic plan specifically addresses goals and requirements for community engagement. The Superintendent's contract goals address a requirement for community engagement. Our Board fully understands we are the public's voice and therefore, have a duty to proactively seek that voice. We welcome the opportunity to improve public engagement in meaningful and productive ways.

Currently, under consideration is the televising of our Board meetings at certain times per quarter, creating public forums in which there is dialogue between the community and the Board, and increasing the number of community/complex meetings which are held within the community during the evening hours and adding a separate time for meeting staff to discuss their issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments to SB 2763.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

STATE OF HAWAII
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT BUILDING
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 107
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: 808-586-1400 FAX: 808-586-1412
EMAIL: oip@hawaii.gov

To: Senate Committee on Education

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: February 7, 2014
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

Re: Testimony on S.B. No. 2763
Relating to the Board of Education

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. The Office of Information Practices (“OIP”) is commenting to express concerns regarding this bill, which would require the Board of Education (“BOE”) to allow public testimony at any meeting on items that are not on its agenda but are within its authority.

Under the current Sunshine Law (Part I of HRS Chapter 92), a board **is required** to provide notice of its meetings and accept all written and oral testimony on every item on its agenda. If an item is not on its agenda, board members cannot discuss, deliberate or decide that item. A board may choose to have an **open forum** during a meeting at which members of the public can speak to any topic within the board’s authority, but a board **is not required** to do so; and if the board does choose to allow an open forum, **its members must be careful not to actually engage in any discussion of issues that are not on its agenda but are raised by the public during the open forum.** Because the public has not necessarily been given notice of items that arise during the open forum,

interested persons may not be at the meeting to hear what others have to say about the issue or to present their views on the issue.

Currently, a board that draws large numbers of testifiers can control its schedule and the focus and length of its meetings by selecting the items to include on its agenda for a given meeting. For example, a board may devote a full day meeting to a single high-interest item that is expected to draw a large amount of testimony, and then schedule a shorter meeting on another date with an agenda that includes several minor issues but not the high-interest one.

This bill could make it difficult for the BOE to conduct its necessary business and to schedule what issues it will consider at which meeting, because the board would be obligated to hear all public testimony on any issue within its authority that is raised by any person, even if the matter was not on the properly noticed agenda. This would also mean that members of the public would be less able to rely on the BOE's agendas. For example, a person interested in curricular reform might learn after the fact that the BOE had heard extensive public testimony on adoption of a new curriculum during the open forum at a meeting that was supposed to be devoted to discussion of the unrelated issue of school bus contracting. Additionally, the BOE could draw Sunshine Law complaints alleging that it illegally considered an issue not on its agenda by hearing testimony on that issue as required by this bill, which places it between a rock and a hard place in trying to comply with the law.

Because of the potential for Sunshine Law complaints as well as the administrative challenges this bill as proposed would present, OIP recommends that the bill be amended to meet the Committee's specific concerns. For example, if this Committee wishes to place a legal obligation on the BOE to hold open public forums, it could do so in a more limited manner, such as requiring that at least one

Senate Committee on Education
February 7, 2014
Page 3 of 3

such forum be held during a set period of time, rather than turning every meeting into an open forum as this bill does in its current form.

Thank you for considering our testimony.



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101
Honolulu, HI 96814
Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129
email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

February 7, 2014

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Chair*
Ms. Martha Guinan, *Vice
Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta
Dr. Tammy Bopp
Dr. Robert Campbell
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman
Ms. Annette Cooper
Ms. Shari Dela Cuadra-Larsen,
liaison to the Superintendent
Ms. Jenny Gong
Ms. Gabriele Finn
Ms. Tami Ho
Ms. Barbara Ioli
Ms. Valerie Johnson
Ms. Deborah Kobayakawa
Ms. Bernadette Lane
Ms. Shanelle Lum
Ms. Dale Matsuura
Ms. Stacey Oshio
Ms. Zaidarene Place
Mr. Kenneth Powell
Ms. Barbara Pretty
Ms. Kau'i Rezentes
Ms. Melissa Rosen
Dr. Patricia Sheehy
Mr. Tom Smith
Ms. Lani Solomona
Dr. Daniel Ulrich
Ms. Amy Weich
Ms. Cari White
Ms. Susan Wood

Jan Tateishi, Staff
Susan Rocco, Staff

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Committee on Education
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB 2763 - Relating to the Board Education

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), **supports** SB 2763 that requires the Board of Education to allow public testimony on items not on a public meeting agenda if certain requirements are met.

Our monthly SEAC meetings include a standing agenda item for public input, and we see this practice benefiting not only members of the public (most notably parents of students with disabilities) who wish to bring issues to our attention, but also our Council members. The input we receive educates us regarding current challenges facing individual students and educators in the field, and often leads to the discovery of systemic issues impacting large groups of students or school personnel.

The practice of offering time for open testimony is also in keeping with the stated intent in the Hawaii State Department and Board of Education Strategic Plan to improve internal and external communication, so that the Department, the Board and all education stakeholders can all work together in support of student success. We believe this is only possible by offering two-way communication.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Ivalee Sinclair, Chair



COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL OF HAWAII
1177 Alakea Street · B-100 · Honolulu · HI · 96813
TEL: (808) 586-5363 · TOLL FREE: 1-800-437-8641 · FAX: (808) 586-5366

February 7, 2014

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair
Chairs of the Education Committee – State Capitol

RE: SB2763 – Testimony to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Tokuda and Vice-Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee,

The 17 Community Children's Councils (CCCs) **supports** SB2763. This bill will require the BOE to include an open forum on its meeting agenda to afford all interested persons an opportunity to present oral testimony on any matter not on the agenda; provided that the testimony is related to matters over which the board has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power. The CCCS believe this will help to continue the positive relation between parents, community stake holders and the BOE

The 17 Community Children's Councils (CCCs) are community-based bodies comprised of parents and professionals in both public and private agencies and other interested persons who are concerned with specialized services provided to Hawaii's students. Membership is diverse, voluntary and advisory in nature. The CCCs are in rural and urban communities organized around the Complexes in the Department of Education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. If there are any questions or you need further information please contact us at 586-5370.

Sincerely yours

Tom Smith, Co-Chair

Jessica Wong-Sumida, Co-Chair

(Original signatures are on file with the CCCO)



HAWAII

AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS

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Marsha Schweitzer (Alt)

MAILING ADDRESS

PO. Box23404
Honolulu
Hawaii'i 96823

January 27, 2014

TO: Chair Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

FROM: John Bickel, President
Americans for Democratic Action/Hawaii'i

RE: Support and Comments on SB 2763 Relating to the Board of Education

Americans for Democratic Action is the nation's most experienced organization committed to liberal politics, liberal policies, and a liberal future. We pride ourselves on supporting public policies that improve fairness. Therefore we support SB 2763 as it is only fair that the public be given a chance to be heard by the Board of Education. The care and nurture of our young is of the utmost importance. Therefore the Board should be open to all public input. While it may take more of the Board's time, they should understand that they are public officials and should be open to public comment.



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813
www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7448 | voters@lwvhawaii.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Friday, February 7, 2014, Room 414
SB 2763 RELATING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TESTIMONY

Janet Mason, Legislative Co-Chair, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports the intent of SB 2763 that would require the Board to have an 'open forum' on its meeting agenda. We suggest an amendment to the bill.

The League supports the public's rights and interest concerning the administration, policy setting and budget making for our statewide school system. We believe the proposed measure is consistent with Chapter 92 Section 302A-124 HRS and the Board's By-Laws.

At the present time, the public is permitted to testify at full Board of Education meetings, but only on items that already appear on the previously set agenda. We request that SB2763 be amended to require that every meeting of the full Board of Education have an agenda item titled 'Open Forum' or 'Community Items,' for the purpose of allowing the public to submit proposals for **future** agenda items. This would permit greater transparency because minutes of the Board meeting would then include the proposed agenda items submitted by the public to the 'Open Forum' or 'Community Items' section of the Board meeting. At a subsequent Board meeting the full Board could then take action on any open 'Open Forum or 'Community Items.' While this would not guarantee inclusion on the agenda of the items proposed by the public under the 'Open Forum' or 'Community Items' area, it would create a venue for the public to present suggestions of items for discussion.



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813
www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7448 | voters@lwvhawaii.com

We support the Board's current instructions for submitting written testimony and testifying in person at Board meetings and do not believe the proposed change would interfere with the general business of the Board.

We urge you to pass this bill with our recommended revision. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON EDUCATION

Wil Okabe
President
Joan Kamila Lewis
Vice President
Colleen Pasco
Secretary-Treasurer
Alvin Nagasako
Executive Director

DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2014

RE: S.B. 2763 - RELATING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

PERSON TESTIFYING: WIL OKABE
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Honorable Chair Jill Tokuda, The Honorable Vice-Chair Michelle Kidani and the Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) **supports S.B. 2763, Relating to the Board of Education.**

HSTA is the exclusive representative of more than 13,500 public and charter schoolteachers statewide. As the state affiliate of the 3.2 million members of the National Education Association, the HSTA believes that an active, working relationship with the BOE will help HSTA members to function effectively to protect our rights, our interests and help us to advocate for better policies that affect public education.

It is clear that this Board of Education has done very little since 2010 to advance public education and include all educational stakeholders.

For example, neighbor islands are still excluded in the discussion to public meetings. BOE meetings never start on time and never end on time, consistently holding meetings that last well over 2 hours.

It has also been difficult to submit testimony as the agenda items are very vague and when seeking clarification. Board staff has admitted that even they do not understand the topic on the agenda.

HSTA continues to advocate for an elected Board of Education. We believe in democracy where the people can select who they want and have the opportunity to vote for people who want to serve the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of S.B. 2763.**

Senate Education Committee

2-7-14

SB 2763

Senator Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

I am Marcia Linville, speaking in support of Senate Bill 2763.

I served as librarian for over 30 years in federal, state, city and special libraries, as HGEA Agency Council Head, Unit 13, DOE, for almost 20 years, as President of the Librarians Association of Hawaii for two terms and as Childrens Section Head for the Hawaii Librarians Association. I have also served as legislative liaison for the Democratic Party, for HLA and for LAH.

The opportunity for the public to bring to the attention of the Board of Education matters of public concern, has been for over 30 years, one of the most effective ways to inform the Board of Education of problems within the schools or the system of which they may have been unaware. This period for public input was eliminated when the appointed Board decided to limit public testimony to only those matters appearing on the agenda. When one petitioner asked how she could get something on the agenda, she was told "You can't".

It is my belief that the Board, based on its experience, has taken a business model as it working paradigm, seeing the Superintendent as the CEO, the CAS as middle management, the teachers as retailers and the students as consumers. But this model has failed to recognize the fact that Hawaii's people as a whole are the customers who are affected by public education. The Board is, in effect, cutting off consumer input, usually believed to be a necessary part of any successful business. The Board has recently acerbated this obstacle to public input by proposing to limit the general business meeting to only one a month. Granted that this is a volunteer, unpaid board, which has been successful in eliminating many unnecessary expenses, it does not seem a reasonable perception that eliminating opportunities for public input on areas of concern is eliminating an unnecessary expense.

I there respectfully request your support for this bill.

Marcia Linville

536-4466a

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: misskuiyin@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, February 06, 2014 2:40:49 PM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kuiyin carter	HSTA	Support	No

Comments: The HSTA believes that an active, working relationship with the BOE will help HSTA members to function effectively to protect our rights, our interests, and help us to advocate for better policies that affect public education. It is clear that this Board of Education has done very little since 2010 to advance public education and include all stakeholders. For example, neighbor islands are still excluded in the discussion to public meetings. BOE meetings NEVER start on time and NEVER end on time, consistently holding meets that last well over 2 hours. It has also been difficult to submit testimony as the agenda items are very vague and when seeing clarification, Board staff has admitted that even they do not understand the topic on the agenda. HSTA continues to advocate for an elected Board of Education. We believe in democracy where the people can select who they want and have the opportunity to vote for people who want to serve the public. My name is Kuiyin Carter, a teacher in Central District, and I firmly stand on my position in support of this bill.

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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To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: annieckcross@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, February 06, 2014 2:43:42 PM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anne Cross	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: As a community member, mother, educator, and HSTA member I am in support of this bill. I believe the BOE should be accessible to the public. I live in Hakalau on the Island of Hawai'i and teach at Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary School and I am excluded in the discussion at public meetings. I am also not able to submit testimony as the agenda items are very vague. I often hear that BOE members use the argument that teachers do not testify. How can we? I choose to put my students and their education first! Ideally I would like to see the BOE go back to being elected so that members answer directly to the taxpayers and not to the Governor!

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: jmaeda1227@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, February 06, 2014 2:47:06 PM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jodi Maeda	HSTA	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Senate Education Committee, My name is Jodi Maeda and I am a teacher at Kaua'i High School. I am writing in support of SB 2763. As a teacher on a neighbor island, it is very difficult for me to be able to provide testimony at BOE meetings, due to the fact that the meetings are only held on Oahu, during the hours that I am teaching in my classroom. This is a problem for any teacher who lives and works on a neighbor island. It is frustrating when the BOE, which is comprised of non-teachers, is making decisions that affect my students and myself, and we are not able to provide input on these issues. If the legislature and BOE are truly concerned about what is happening in the schools, they should be open to hearing from the people who are on the front line, in the classrooms. We are the ones who have direct contact with the students on a daily basis. This is not possible when the meetings are held at the same time that we are in our classrooms. Again, please support this bill that would allow teachers to provide testimony and input on issues that are affecting the schools at a time that is convenient for them. Thank you for your time and consideration. Mahalo, Jodi Maeda Lihue, Hawaii

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: roeleno@juno.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, February 06, 2014 2:49:04 PM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Romeo Eleno	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear BOE, I am writing in support of SB2763 to allow public testimony to be added onto the public testimony agenda in order to avoid transparency since we should always be working for the best interest of our students. Thank you for the opportunity, Romeo Eleno

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: jalesna@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, February 06, 2014 2:49:25 PM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Senate Committee members, I am writing in support of this bill. As a public school teacher I believe that an active, working relationship with the Board of Education will help us to function effectively to protect our rights, interests, and help us to advocate for better policies that affect public education. It is definitely clear that the appointed BOE has done very little to advance public education as well as include all educational stakeholders. Evidence is that neighbor islands are excluded in the discussion to public meetings. Meetings never start or end on time, consistently holding meetings that last well over 2 hours. It has also been difficult to submit testimony as the agenda items are very vague. When seeking clarification board staff has admitted that even they do not understand the topic on the agenda. Thank you for your time and consideration, Janice Eala 4th grade teacher at Ka'ala Elementary School and HSTA member

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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To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: chrisho01@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, February 06, 2014 2:50:48 PM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Ho	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senator Tokuda and committee please support this bill as it also for those that are directly effected by the decisions of this group to be in attendance to the meetings and be able to provide testimony regarding the topics covered by the Board of Education.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: kristim808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, February 06, 2014 3:33:49 PM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristi Miyamae	HSTA	Support	No

Comments: Dear Committee Members, I am a 7th grade math teacher at Mililani Middle School. I am asking that you support SB 2763. It is very important for the Board of Education to hear public testimony for clarification of topics on the agenda. In order to maintain a democratic process, educational stakeholders should have the opportunity to clarify and give input to issues on the agenda. Currently, meetings rarely start or end on time. They are also held during the day when the majority of the people work. Please protect our rights and interests for policies that affect public education. Thank you, Kristi Miyamae

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: mhoy_9092@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Friday, February 07, 2014 10:33:31 AM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Hoy	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: As a teacher at Kohala High School on tip of the Big Island, I am testifying in support of SB 2763. Currently there is no mechanism for me to share my students' educational frustration with standardized testing, additional graduation requirements and weighted student formula staff reductions and limited course offerings. There are no individual emails or phone numbers to contact board members currently. It would be an advantage to be able to present testimony via video streaming from out high school library, teleconferencing, and Skype. What would be another advantage is to have a chance to do this NOT during the school day while I am instructing my students but after school, or evenings, rotating the day of the week, when I am not supervising other student activities. Thank you for the opportunity to address you on this matter.

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Cc: putzulu@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, February 06, 2014 2:55:05 PM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Putzulu	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Committee Members, HSTA believes that an active, working relationship with the BOE will help HSTA members to function effectively to protect our rights, our interests and help us to advocate for better policies that affect public education. It has been difficult to submit testimony as the agenda items are very vague and when seeking clarification. Board staff has admitted that even they do not understand the topic on the agenda. HSTA continues to advocate for an elected Board of Education. We believe in democracy where the people can select who they want and have the opportunity to vote for people who want to serve the public. Thank you for your time, Christine Putzulu

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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Cc: martysunderland@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2763 on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Friday, February 07, 2014 10:33:34 AM

SB2763

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 7, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marty Sunderland	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am in support of SB 2763. It is imperative that our school board be responsive to the citizens, the parents, teachers and students to whom they owe fiduciary responsibility. This responsibility is not met when meetings are held during times when parents, teachers and students are in class or at work. An open forum on its meeting agenda, to afford all interested persons an opportunity to present oral testimony on any matter not on the agenda is essential for the Board to connect with the concerns of the citizens for whom they need to provide. Accommodations can be made through a combination of timing that more realistically addresses the schedules of the constituents, and by use of electronic media such as Skype for those who are unable to travel to meetings. Thank you for the opportunity to address this bill.

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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