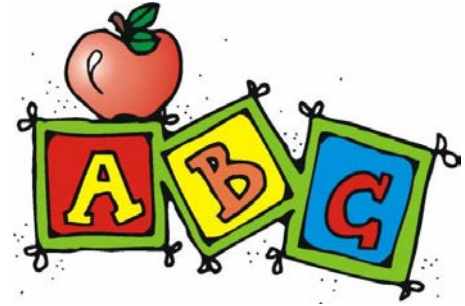


# SB3083



- Measure Title:** RELATING TO SCHOOL ATHLETICS.
- Report Title:** School Athletics Program; Appropriation; Position Authorization (\$)
- Description:** Appropriates general funds for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the school athletics program of the department of education. Authorizes additional positions for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the school athletics program.
- Companion:**
- Package:** None
- Current Referral:** EDU, WAM
- Introducer(s):** IGE, DELA CRUZ, ESPERO, IHARA, KIDANI, SHIMABUKURO, TANIGUCHI, WAKAI, Galuteria, Kahele, Kouchi, Nishihara, Ruderman, Slom



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

**Date:** 02/10/2014

**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 3083 RELATING TO SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates general funds for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the school athletics program of the department of education. Authorizes additional positions for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the school athletics program.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports SB 3083. Amidst a period of major economic and budgetary challenges in our state, the athletics program was reduced back in 2009 and has had difficulty meeting increased expenses.

The intent of this bill, to provide additional funding for the supplemental fiscal year and first half of the new biennial budget period, will definitely help to restore the athletics program to a level that is representative of the importance of athletics in academics. Further, it will add to, rather than compete with the priorities set forth in the Department's Supplemental Budget request.

We would however suggest an amendment to Section 3 of this measure to also allow for funding of athletic program assistant coaches that are tied to a stipend amount by sport rather than a full-time equivalent permanent or temporary position.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

Council Chair  
Gladys C. Baisa

Vice-Chair  
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Michael P. Victorino

Council Members  
Elle Cochran  
Donald G. Couch, Jr.  
Stacy Crivello  
Don S. Guzman  
G. Riki Hokama  
Mike White



Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.mauicounty.gov/council](http://www.mauicounty.gov/council)

February 7, 2014

Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

RE: SB 3083, Relating to School Athletics - Support

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Education Committee:

Small communities, such as Lanai, take tremendous pride in the success and achievement of their youth. The opportunity to succeed in the academic arena is one that all our keiki should be afforded. Athletic competition is an important component of the educational experience provided in our public education system. Through athletics students learn the values of teamwork, sacrifice, and perseverance.

The young men and women who represent Lanai High School in athletics represent the entire island and community while doing so. They do so while facing a tremendously unique hardship of having to travel for every single away game. This travel budget creates a significant ripple down effect as the Lanai High athletic programs utilize their limited funds. The added travel costs prevent the athletic program from replacing worn out uniforms and equipment at times. Subsequently, this puts the Lanai High programs at a disadvantage when compared to their competition. With an even playing field, in terms of resources, teams from small communities, such as Lanai, can compete and challenge anyone.

The approximately \$24,000 that Lanai High receives each year from the state is put to excellent use, although it is stretched very thin. Thus, I support the passage of Senate Bill 2083 to provide our keiki with the opportunity to benefit from the lessons that athletics provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Riki Hokama", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

G. RIKI HOKAMA  
Council Member

Council Chair  
Gladys C. Baisa

Vice-Chair  
Robert Carroll

Council Members  
Elle Cochran  
Donald G. Couch, Jr.  
Stacy Crivello  
Don S. Guzman  
G. Riki Hokama  
Michael P. Victorino  
Mike White




Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

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February 10, 2014

TO: Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Stacy Crivello   
Council Member

DATE: February 10, 2014

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF SB 3083 RELATING TO SCHOOL ATHLETICS**

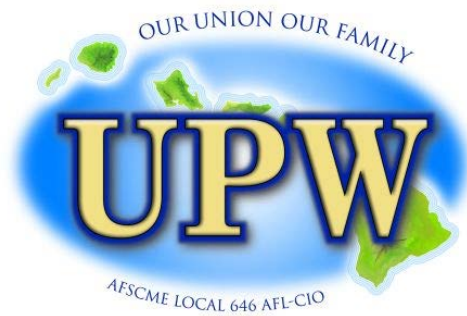
Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate general funds to fiscal year 2014-2015 for the school athletics program of the department of education. It Authorizes additional positions for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the school athletics program.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. The Department of Education's athletic budget was significantly reduced 6 years ago by approximately \$4million and though it's been partially restored in recent years, it remains severely underfunded.
2. There are some 43 athletic programs today covering 2063 different sports teams, many facing transportation issues like Molokai and Lanai who have to resort to fundraising to make up for the shortfalls caused by budget cuts.
3. School's athletic staffs have been reduced, forcing many schools to rely on unpaid volunteers to assist the coaches. There are an estimated 1000 unpaid assistant coaches.

For the foregoing reasons, I support this measure.

SSC:aas:SB3803



THE HAWAII STATE SENATE  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
Regular Session of 2014

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The Honorable Sen. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
The Honorable Sen. Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Monday, February 10, 2014  
TIME OF HEARING: 1:15 PM  
PLACE OF HEARING: Conference Room 414

**TESTIMONY ON SB3083 RELATING TO SCHOOL ATHLETICS**

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,  
State Director of the United Public Workers,  
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO (“UPW”)

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua and I am the State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

The UPW strongly supports SB3083, which appropriates general funds for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the school athletics program of the Department of Education. It authorizes additional positions for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the school athletics program.

Studies have shown there to be a positive correlation between participation in school athletic programs and student success in the classrooms. For a student to be eligible to participate in interscholastic sports, they must first uphold a minimum grade point average of 2.5. Schools also feel a direct benefit to their overall morale from the success of their athletic programs. Hawaii’s schools traditionally feature “spirit weeks” to boost school pride before certain athletic events. Students’ feed off the school’s pride and it leaves them feeling empowered and optimistic about their futures. Let’s provide opportunities for our children by funding public school athletics.

We ask that the committee pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

The Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
Regular Session of 2014

THE SENATE

Committee on Education

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 414

Monday, February 10, 2014; 1:15 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 3083  
RELATING TO SCHOOL ATHLETICS**

The ILWU Local 142 **supports** S.B. 3083, which appropriates general funds and authorizes additional positions for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the school athletics program of the Department of Education.

Schools are where students study math, science, English, social studies, languages, and other academic courses that will help them be productive citizens in our society. However, school athletics also plays a vital role in developing responsible adults.

Through athletics, students learn teamwork, enjoy social interaction, maintain physical fitness, and are motivated to work on their academics. Through athletics, students also learn discipline, responsibility, and skills. Through athletics, some students even have the opportunity to qualify for college scholarships. And through athletics, students are involved in activities that keep them engaged and occupied.

Funds to support school athletics have been reduced, forcing the private sector to raise money to keep athletic programs going. Now that the State is in a better financial position, funds should be invested in Hawaii's youth to keep them on the path toward responsible citizenship.

The ILWU urges passage of S.B. 3083. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Date of Hearing: February 10, 2014  
Committee: Senate Committee on Education  
Person testifying: Neal Takamori, President  
ADCA (Athletic Directors and Coaches Association of Hawaii)

Testimony on SB 3083

My name is Neal Takamori, President of ADCA, Athletic Directors and Coaches Association of Hawaii. I'm representing the athletic directors of all public high schools in the State of Hawaii who are in support of SB 3083: Restoring funding for athletics to the 2008-09 Athletic Allocations amounts.

In 2009, the athletic budget statewide for public schools were cut, as were other state programs, but a 5% cut in the athletic budget amounted to a 30%-40% for each high school's athletic program. This meant schools deleted about 30% of their coaching positions and the OIA, KIF, MIL, and BIIF, made changes to their sport programs, league schedules, transportation plans and other cost cutting measures to maintain current programs. However, the safety of our athletes remained a priority so much of each school's funding was spent towards safety equipment and supplies. Schools are currently fundraising \$15,000.00 - \$30,000.00 annually to meet the rising costs of maintaining current programs. For the following reasons, it has been a challenge:

- **TRANSPORTATION:** The rising costs of fuel, bus and air transportation has increased tremendously, especially for Maui and Hawaii. For example, the cost of a round trip from Kau to Kohala is over \$1,000.00.
- **EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES:** The rising costs of athletic supplies and equipment necessitates a need for an increase in the state allotment for equipment and supplies. For example, it costs over \$300.00 to provide safety equipment and uniforms for one football player.
- **GENDER EQUITY:** Since 2000, participation in our girl's sports programs in the public schools have increased 100%. With this increase in participation and the addition of more sport opportunities for girls, costs of coaching positions, supplies and equipment, and transportation increased. However, there was no increase in the original funding. As a result of this, each school received a lesser allocation annually. Please help us in providing equal opportunities for our girl's sports programs. Gender Equity funding comes as a separate allocation that can be used for only girls sport programs.
- **EXAMPLE:** At McKinley, our annual budget is in excess of \$175,000.00. Funding from the State and game receipts account for \$140,000.00 leaving us a negative balance of \$35,000.00 that we need to fundraise with chicken and candy sales, etc. Teams and individuals that qualify for HHSAA State Tournaments need to fundraise in order for them to participate. Because we, as well as Anuenue, Kaimuki, Kalani, and Farrington, do not have football stadiums, we do not have football food concession revenues which make it additionally difficult to raise funds.

The athletic program, being an integral part of the school curriculum, plays an important role for many students in our public schools, and the opportunity to play sports motivates and positively impacts their success in the classroom and in their personal lives. Restoring athletics allocation funding to the 2008-09 will help each high school athletic program better provide for their athletes by enabling schools to fill coaching positions, and help with the rising costs of transportation, and equipment and supplies. Priority will focus on restoring coaching positions.

We appreciate your consideration and support of SB 3083.



Testimony for  
Committee on Education Hearing  
Monday, February 10, 2014, 1:15 p.m. Room 414

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

**SB3083 Relating To School Athletics**

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

This letter is in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB3083 to provide funding for the DOE School Athletics Program for the fiscal year 2014-2015. I am Lynn McCrory, Senior Vice President of Pūlama Lānaʻi. Pūlama Lānaʻi is the entity that was set up by Larry Ellison to work with the community and government as we move the island toward sustainability.

Our Lānaʻi school receives a minimal amount to cover the transportation expenses for the students to participate in athletic sports throughout Hawaii. This level of funding results in year-round fund raising and cutting costs for the athletes by sleeping overnight in gymnasiums. Athletic challenges provide values of commitment and responsibility. The ability to learn team play and the discipline to excel in their choice of sporting activities comes from competition. And the competition is on other islands.

We humbly ask that you support this bill by providing an opportunity to the Lānaʻi children to compete with their best possible efforts. Mahalo!

Me ke aloha pumehana  
With warm aloha,

Lynn P. McCrory  
Senior Vice President of Government Affairs



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [EDU Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [tabalos@hsta.org](mailto:tabalos@hsta.org)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB3083 on Feb 10, 2014 13:15PM\*  
**Date:** Monday, February 10, 2014 9:55:25 AM

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**SB3083**

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 10, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tanya Abalos-Arceneaux	HSTA	Support	No

Comments:

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

February 4, 2014

The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chairwoman  
Senate Education Committee

Dear Chairwoman Tokuda and Committee Members:

SB 3083 – Relating to School Athletics

In coming weeks, as it is with every legislative session, you will be pushed and pulled in a lot of different directions as far as funding need and support. There's a lot of community needs to be filled and scarce resources to do it all. You will have to make the tough choices on what gets funded and what doesn't as well as balance the consequences (intended or not) of those choices.

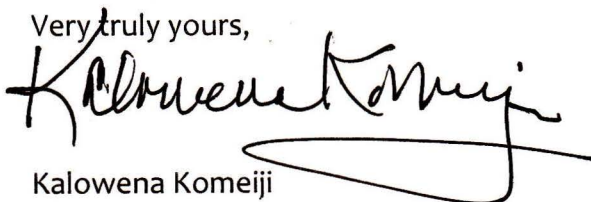
This is not unlike the situation that the athletic directors on Molokai and Lanai face with their current budget. Which student athletes get to travel to away games and play and which student athletes will have to stay back even though all of them have participated in practices and/or other team related activities. For small communities like Molokai and Lanai, there is always the added worry that if not for sports (or dance, or art or theater – whatever the activity may be) to keep students fit and engaged, what else would they do with too much free time?

Until recently I was not aware of (and nor did I give much thought to) the challenges student athletes from Molokai and Lanai face to participate in high school sports. It was quite the eye opener to hear that residents can travel to California faster than these athletes can get between the islands of Molokai and Lanai! It was also heart breaking to hear that economics force athletic directors and coaches to make difficult choices on which team members get to travel to away games and who gets left behind.

I sincerely hope that you can find some way to restore funding for Hawaii's high school athletic programs, that neighbor island student athletes will only have to worry about whether they are "good enough" to win their respective seasons and not about the long and arduous journey to get from one island to the next or who is going to be selected to go and who has to stay back.

Please support this measure. Thank you for your consideration and time.

Very truly yours,

  
Kalowena Komeiji



## **KAU ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

**P.O. BOX 100 \* PAHALA, HI 96777**  
**(808) 928-2012 \* (808) 928-2092 fax**

### **HOME OF THE TROJANS**

My name is Kalei Namohala, I'm the Athletic Director for Ka'u High & Pahala Elementary School. I am in support of SB3083 to restore funding to our Athletic Programs. Athletics is a dynamic integral part of the educational experience for students. It provides meaningful learning opportunities not otherwise offered in the school classroom curriculum. It assists in developing habits, attitudes, and ideals necessary for ethical competition and cooperation in our society. It also provide our students with life-long lessons for personal growth such as sportsmanship, teamwork, ethical behavior, perseverance, commitment, loyalty, self-discipline, pride, cooperation, responsibility, and leadership skills.

Interscholastic athletics should be enjoyable with the purpose of benefiting students, not the institutions. Winning at all cost should not be a part of anyone's philosophy. A wide variety of wholesome activities should be available and tailored to the physical, mental, and emotional maturity level of the participants, as long as it doesn't interfere with the essential concept of "**THE TEAM**". The best possible staff and facilities available should be a concern to those in charge of programs servicing our youth. Students should be encouraged to explore a particular sport of his/her interest regardless of ability level. Ka'u High is in a rural, high poverty, low economic area. The distance from any major town is one hour away. Athletics is a key component in helping our students stay focus in their Academic pursuits. We strive to tailor our Programs to meet the qualities and traits that will make them productive individuals in their community. Being so far away and isolated, it's often hard to find quality coaches that are willing to teach for free. In addition, transportation cost has risen due to increase in fuel cost. A chartered bus that cost \$460 in 2008 – 2009 to Hilo has now increased to \$660 in 2013 – 2014. To Kohala the cost was \$880, now \$1080. Outdated equipment and supplies have to be restored or replaced.

Please consider to restore the athletic program funds. Athletics is a vital life line for Ka'u High Students and their academic success!!

Thank you for your consideration!!

D. Kalei Namohala, KHPES Athletic Director



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL  
1120 NEHOA STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96822

To: Chairperson Sen. Tokuda  
Vice Chairperson Sen. Kidani

My name is John Chung and I am the Athletic Director at Roosevelt High School. I am writing this letter in support of SB 3083.

In the 2008 – 2009 fiscal year, our athletic budget was dramatically reduced. Over the last few years we have been fortunate enough to get back some of the allocations that were cut but unfortunately, we were not able to receive the full amount that was allocated to us in the 2007-2008 budget. Our supplies and equipment and transportation allocations have been partially restored to our 2007-2008 budget but what is sorely needed is the restoration of our coaches salaries allocation.

Since the budget cuts, I have had to ask my Head coaches to cut back on their away preseason games to save our transportation fund for our regular season away games. Even with my coaches doing that, I normally use up my transportation allocation by the end of March. I have also increased our uniform rotation to 6 years instead of 4 but the hardest cut that I've had to make was to inform some of our veteran assistant coaches that I could no longer pay them. Some of them have been coaching at Roosevelt for 10 years.

Head coaches are hard to find but assistant coaches that are willing to coach at a school for a long duration is even harder. I lost a few of my veteran coaches due to the budget cuts. When they left, they were honest with me. They all said basically the same thing. They really didn't want to step down but the little stipend that they got allowed them to take time off early from their regular job to coach. The stipend didn't cover for all the time that they lost but it helped.

I ask that you please support SB3083, it will go a long way to help us to continue to service our student athletes as best as we can.

Yours Truly,

John Chung  
Athletic Director  
Roosevelt High School

February 6, 2014

Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

RE: SB 3083, Relating to School Athletics – Support  
Monday, February 10, 2014, 1:15 PM, Conference Room 414 - State Capitol

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Education Committee:

I am testifying in support of SB 3083 to provide funding and staffing for the DOE School Athletics Program for fiscal year 2014-2015.

Lanai High School receives approximately \$24,000/year from the state to cover all of its off-island transportation costs. I am very grateful for whatever funding we receive from the state, but because of our geographical remoteness and the high cost of travel from Lanai to other islands for away games, this funding is simply not enough. On Lanai, teams must fundraise throughout the year and players and coaches make many sacrifices. Some of the equipment and uniforms, for example, haven't been replaced in years, and we've learned to make do with limited supplies. Students sleep on gym floors, wrestling room mats and parents are responsible for providing meals for their children every time the team travels to play an off-island opponent. These costs, as well as the rigorous travel – most times by ferry – put our student athletes at a competitive disadvantage.

We all know that sports teaches kids good values such as hard work, discipline, team work, humility, commitment and responsibility. These are lessons that students will carry with them throughout their lives. I would like to see more of these opportunities available to Lanai High students.

For these reasons, I humbly ask for your support to pass this bill and **give our kids the opportunity to participate in athletics and benefit from all the important lessons sports teaches them.**

Sincerely,

Serena Woodward  
serenamwoodward@yahoo.com  
PO Box 631716, Lanai City, HI 96763

February 5, 2013

Dear Senator Tokuda and Committee members,

I am a Cross Country coach at Lanai High & Elementary School. I was approached to coach HS girls' softball this spring, however funding may not permit me to do so. This is nothing new. Over the years, our athletic programs have been under funded. Many times we spend our own money for basic needs and equipment for our student athletes. Many times, we have been unable to attend all events because we cannot afford to get to another island to compete. When we do, the students sleep on the floor in classrooms and gymnasiums.

Coaching on Lanai is quite different than coaching in the OIA or ILH. We are required to travel by ferry or airlines. Many times we limit the number of student athletes traveling to another island to keep the cost down. Often times we try to raise funds for travel from our community, but as you know, we have a population of less than 3,000 people, and cost of living here is high. People donate what they can, but it isn't enough.

Participating in sports helps students to be disciplined, stay fit, and set goals. Please provide the adequate funding for not only students athletes on Lanai, but for all student athletes in Hawaii.

I sincerely hope you can find some ways to restore the funding for Hawaii High School Athletics. Again please support SB 3083.

Mahalo,

Patty Gorski

Teacher and Coach at Lanai High and Elementary

February 6, 2014

Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

Re: SB 3083, Relating to School Athletics – Support  
Monday, February 10, 2014, 1:15PM, Conference Room 414 – State Capitol

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Education Committee:

I am the Head Wrestling Coach at Lanai High & Elementary School, and I am testifying in support of SB 3083 to provide funding and staffing for the DOE School Athletics program for the fiscal year 2014-2015.

I have previously coached wrestling at Kamehameha Schools Kapalama during the seasons of 2011 – 2013 seasons. Since coaching for Lanai High & Elementary School I've notice the big difference between coaching in the ILH, and coaching for Lanai High. One of the big differences is that we are required to travel by ferry, or airlines to compete every weekend. Many times we would limit the number of students traveling to another island to help keep our cost down. I have also noticed my duties as a coach at Lanai High requires me to be a fundraiser, and be a bus driver as well. Often times some of my wrestlers don't have enough money for their meals, and my coaching staff and I would have to pay for their meals.

I am very grateful for whatever funding we receive from the state, but because of our geographical remoteness, high cost of travel from Lanai to other islands, and sleeping conditions I feel that our student athletes are at a competitive disadvantage. Wrestling teaches these kids ha'aha'a (to be humble), pono (be righteous), and laulima (to work together) which will help them be successful in their future beyond High School Sports.

For these reasons, I humbly ask for your support to pass this bill and give our kids the opportunity to participate in athletics and benefit from all the important lessons sports teaches them.

Sincerely,

Aaron Fernandez

Lanai Wrestling Team

My Name is Bob Morikuni. I am the Athletic Director at McKinley High School in Honolulu, Hawaii. I am writing in support of Bill 3083. At McKinley High School we have lost at least 15-20 paid assistant coaching positions per year since the first cuts of our allocations. And some of these coaches are still coaching as volunteers . But there has been a lot of coaching changes on our staff because most of them are not getting paid. I know they don't get paid a lot of money through coaching, but the amount of time they spend working with our student athletes for 3 months and sometimes much longer amounts to a part time job. These volunteer coaches are taking time away from their families to help out our students and it would be nice if they could be compensated in some way, even if it's as small as a paid assistant coach's salary. Athletics are one of the ways we can help our youth and our students. Our coaches can do so much to help, influence and guide our youth in positive ways. If we can keep our good coaches here and our coaching staffs stable. Our student athletes will be able to see and reap the benefits not in wins and championships, but way more importantly in learning the life lessons these coaches can teach.

If this Bill should pass it would also be helpful to have our transportation and equipment funds be restored as well. Right now we often run out of money during our Winter Season to pay for buses to transport our teams to athletic events. And we either have to pay for it from our own funds or have the students be transported to games by their parents or coaches. For safety and liability issues we would always want to team to travel together to and from games and prevent the athletes from driven by a coach or parents to games. Here at McKinley we don't always have the best parent support, so it takes a lot to find ways to get our athletes to events safely. Also we would love to be able to better our equipment for our teams. When students get to play with newer equipment, the students get a little more excited to tryout and even play. They feel special that they get to use new equipment rather than run down old or used ones.

I appreciate the time you have spent reading this testimony. I am sorry it was so lengthy. I believe Athletics is a great way to teach life lessons to our students. And by passing this bill, this will help to better all of our programs which in turn I believe will provide a wonderful and greater learning experience for our students. Lastly I would like to say, I don't want any other program's budgets to be cut to fund this one. I hope this bill can be passed and money allocated to Athletics without having to hurt any other programs.

Thank you again for your time.

Sincerely,

Bob H. Morikuni

McKinley High School Athletic Director



To Legislators of Hawaii

On behalf of Farrington High School, I would hope Senate Bill 3083 will be passed. Restoring our athletic budget would be a tremendous asset for our kids in Kalihi. At this time we have been expanding our programs to service our athletes and at the same time asking our coaches to do it on a volunteer basis. Coaches payroll has been reduced to a bare minimum while our transportation budget runs out by December. Our Winter and Spring sports are operating on a zero budget.

This has been a banner year for Farrington so our transportation cost has been extra due to the success of all of our teams. Pride at our school campus comes with a budget that has been reduced. Now that the economy has rebounded we truly hope our budget will be restored to the numbers of 2008. This will allow us to pay more coaches who spend long hours with our student athletes.

Please consider the impact that athletics has on our students as it teaches character, perseverance, teamwork and also working through adversity. We don't want to lose coaches and students because of budget restraints.

Harold Tanaka  
Athletic Director  
Farrington High School

2/5/14

## Testimony of Support

Re: SB 3083 Relating to School Athletics

Dear Chair Sen. Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair Sen. Kidani, and the Education Committee;

My name is Kelly Sur, and I have served in the Department of Education for thirty years, with the last ten years as Athletic Director at Radford high school.

The budget we receive for athletics has never been “fully funded”; even when we were afforded \$ 20,000.00 for transportation back in 2007, our operating cost for transportation was \$ 48,000.00. We received \$ 15,000.00 this school year; the account was used by November.

Every year monies are lobbied from Congress and the federal government to address drugs, freshmen retention, low test scores, declining graduation rates, and the gang problem. Recent national initiatives are High school Reform where small learning communities are recommended for more personal relationships. There are student advisories that are required as part of the reform where teachers are expected to address character and integrity, and address values and morals. Look at the new standards being addressed with our teachers (SLO’s/Danielson training), athletics addresses and has done these initiatives for decades.

Although most of our coaches have received pay raises, some schools have made mandatory cuts in how many players a team may keep due to less stipends for assistant coaches. All of the initiatives now being required of all high schools have been practiced over the years as part of successful athletic programs. All of the things that coaches and athletics teach are being mimicked by Principals and Curriculum coordinators throughout the nation.

As a preventive, athletics provides children choices. There is evidence that athletics already addresses the full gamut of National High School Reform. With high school reform the buzz word nationally, athletics have addressed the concepts of high school reform for decades. Training and federal funds are being invested for training Principals to do what coaches and athletic programs do naturally. If we deny our students athletic opportunities, our energy will most likely be focused on prison reform and transitioning hardened criminals into society and local communities.

February 8, 2014

Re: SB 3083, Relating to School Athletics – Support

Dear Senator Tokuda and Committee members,

I am the Athletic Director at Lanai High & Elementary School. Annually, our athletic department faces budget shortfalls. The athletic budget for Lanai High Athletics has remained the same since the 2009-2010 school year with a 25% cut. We receive about \$24000 a year from the state to cover our entire on island and off island transportation cost.

We are the only school on the island, therefore, our teams needs to compete on Maui and Molokai. For sports like cross country, paddling, wrestling, and golf, these athletes have to travel off island the entire season. To balance the budget, teams often are forced to travel with partial squads. The cost to travel to Molokai cost 300% more than traveling to Maui.

Although our coaches will do anything to keep our athletic programs alive; they need to feel deserving and worthy. Day in and day out they have put in many hours to prepare them on on of the field. I provide the necessary allocations to fund all coaching positions.

Sports are a great way for students to learn character-building, responsibility, discipline and team work. I am not asking for more but to restore what was taken away. Please support this bill and restore funding not only for Lanai High but for all public schools in Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Roderick Sumagit, CAA  
Lanai High & Elementary School  
Athletic Director

My name is Greg Van Cantfort, Athletic Director at Kalani High School, and I am writing in **support of SB 3083**. I have served as Kalani High School's athletics director since 2004. At Kalani we have 54 teams in 19 different sports.

In 2008, as the State struggled financially through very difficult times, school athletic funding was dramatically cut. These cuts impacted coaches' salaries, supply and equipment funding and transportation funding. I am respectfully requesting that funding for high school athletics be restored to at least the 2007-2008 levels.

In the 2007-2008 school year, prior to the budget cuts, Kalani had 79 paid coaching positions for 54 teams. In 2008 our budgets were cut and presently I now have 46 paid coaches for 54 teams. I was forced to release 33 coaches, require my paid coaches to coach more than one team with no additional pay, and seek volunteers to maintain the full complement of teams.

These cuts increased the workload of my paid coaches and left us to rely on volunteers. As an athletic director I am very grateful to have volunteers augment our coaching staff but it does create other problems.

Consistency of coaching is vital to a strong athletic program but with volunteers turning over on a regular basis it is difficult to maintain that consistency. Their knowledge of the sport and current best practices of coaching may not be at a level that is necessary for a competitive program. In addition, it has been difficult to attract well-qualified coaches for the paid positions once they are told that they will have to fill the remainder of their staff with volunteers.

The amount of time required and the duties of coaches have increased exponentially over the years. Coaches create practice plans, monitor the academic progress of their athletes, counsel their athletes, participate in community service activities, assist with site management, conduct fundraisers for their programs and coach summer league teams. They become a surrogate parent, teacher, counselor, coach and mentor... not just for the 14 weeks of their season but for the entire year.

Prior to the 2008 cut to my transportation allocation, the money allotted was not enough to fully fund my transportation expenses. Now with the cut, I am forced to scramble even more to get my teams to their various game sites.

My total transportation allocation for this school year was \$19,500. My bill for transportation for just the month of January was a little over \$3000. In addition, I am sending nine swimmers who qualified for the State Championships in Hilo at a cost of just over \$3,000. I have spent over \$6000 in transportation expenses in a little over a month which is 31% of my entire transportation budget. It is common for me to spend my entire transportation allocation by mid-winter season.

I still have my entire spring season to transport teams to their games AND I may have three spring teams traveling to State Tournaments on the neighboring islands.

Sadly, athletic directors are often torn with mixed emotions when we have successful teams advance to State Tournaments that are on neighboring islands. On one hand we are very proud of our athletes' accomplishments yet on the other hand we wonder where we are going to find the money for their travel expenses.

Finally, my supply and equipment allocation this year was \$19,346 which does not cover all the supplies and equipment necessary for my teams. Football helmets are required to be recertified annually at a cost of approximately \$6,000 a year.

This year I had to purchase a new wrestling mat as the current one that I have is so old and the padding is so worn that it became a hazard. The cost of the new mat was \$10,400.

I am in the process of purchasing new track uniforms which will cost approximately \$3000.

With the recertification of helmets, the purchase of a new wrestling mat and the purchase of new track uniforms, my entire supply and equipment allocation will have been depleted. This leaves no funding for supplies and equipment for the remaining 46 teams.

Once again, I am asking that the Legislature restore the funds to the 2007-2008 level at the very least. Countless studies have shown that athletics provides numerous benefits for those students who participate. It is an investment in the future of our youth.

Sondra Lundvick, Athletic Director, Hilo High School

I am writing to support SB 3083 restoring the full athletic allocations to our Hawaii high school athletic programs. At Hilo High School, we sponsor 53 sports and hope to provide as many athletic opportunities as possible to our students; but this is becoming more difficult. Because of the budget cuts, the majority of my sports have only two paid coaches with the remaining spots being filled by volunteers. While I appreciate the efforts of these volunteers, I don't feel that it is fair to ask the same time and effort as a paid assistant coach. My teams already have to fundraise a tremendous amount to be able to compete for state championships (most raise around \$10,000 to cover airfare, hotel, car and food), and I feel that it is unfair that I am not able to assist them more with basic requests for equipment, uniforms and transportation. My entire allocation for transportation was spent only halfway through this 2013-14 school year, and that cost takes away from other necessities. Our teams are working as hard off the playing field to raise money as they are working on the field to compete for championships. Please help our student-athletes realize that their efforts are recognized, and that we value the life lessons to be learned through extracurricular activity. Please vote in favor of SB 3083.

TO: The Senate of the State of Hawaii, Committee on Education

FROM: William R. (Bill) Trumbo, Athletic Director and Educational Officer  
Konawaena High School, Kealahou, HI County of Hawai'i

RE: Senate Committee on Education, Hearing on a Bill for an Act, SB3083  
Monday February 10, 2014 1:15 PM, Room 414

Purpose: To offer testimony in support of the Bill, and offer insight as to the nature of the limitations of previous budget reductions and the detriment for the boys and girls in High School Athletic programs on the Big Island of Hawai'i.

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Education,  
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair.**

Aloha, Members of the Committee on Education. I am Bill Trumbo, a resident of the Big Island and the Athletic Director and an Educational Officer at Konawaena High School in Kealahou. Wildcat Athletics and the South Kona community has a long and successful tradition in youth sports and the legacy of over 91 years of history and their passion for sports runs deep in this community. I have served as the Athletic Director at Konawaena since, January 7, 2010. Although somewhat new to West Hawai'i I do have a long history with sports and athletics in Hawai'i, as I served as the Director of Athletics at the University of Hawaii-Hilo from 1990 to 2000. Previously, I was actively involved with the local basketball scene and spent a number of summers conducting basketball camps and clinics in Hawai'i, in my role as a college basketball coach in California, Idaho and Oregon.

It is with this background I am providing testimony in support of SB3083 relating to school athletics. I understand and have been directly involved with the negative impact of the dramatic budget cuts suffered by school athletics during the fiscal downturn in 2008-09. When budgets for athletics were cut, by 66% and positions were reduced, equipment budgets were cut beyond barebones levels, transportation and funds for supplies, facilities and repairs were left swinging in the wind. Sports and the young people involved were severely impacted in a very negative manner. The public institutions across the state were asked to reduce staff, limit purchases of equipment and reduce the number of contests available for competition. Programs were decimated as a result, and a full cycle of students in the high schools was seriously disadvantaged as it pertained to competitive experiences in their respective sports.

The most serious of these reductions came in the following areas:

- Staff reductions and compensation available for coaching personnel.
- Funds for travel and associated transportation needs
- Resources for supplies and equipment
- Reduction in number of events and competitions, in respective seasons
- In some cases the dropping of some sports, and sub varsity teams

In each of these areas there are substantial examples in which program effectiveness has been damaged and actual detrimental situations can be cited. I will just bring forth the most obvious and most damaging problems effecting the health, welfare and safety of our student athlete participants in each of these areas.

**Staff reductions and salary cuts for coaches;** Loss of good coaches, the longevity of coaches, the retention and development of coaches were all areas in which we were asked to do more with less. *Coaches had to be fundraisers* to keep their programs alive and were overloaded and had less staff support. In athletic administration and management areas, ridiculously low levels of compensation for clerical support, assistant athletic director's positions and equipment management/maintenance personnel added to the workload of the Athletic Director.

**Example:** This past season we had a paid staff of six coaches in football, where we had 85 participants. Prior to 2008-09 we were able to pay 13 coaches at a 60% higher stipend. \* I am not sure if the committee is aware our highest paid coaching staff member is paid \$ 2,800 (Head Varsity Football Coach) for a 4-5 month season. If an hourly breakdown were to be evaluated for the time expected during the season, not even the off-season, the pay would be far below the minimum wage. The adequate supervision of our teams is seriously understaffed and I believe we are doing a disservice to our young people.

**Funds for travel and transportation;** In our case on the Big Island we have travel times and distances far greater than any other island. 3 hour bus rides and over 200 mile round trips are necessary. The allocation for our travel related expenses covers less than one half our needs in a reduced schedule of games and matches. This reduction was handled in part by limiting the number of events and splitting the island and having a schedule which had a west side, east side break down which undermined the development of the individuals. Junior varsity competitions were reduced as well and in some cases were dropped completely **Example:** This year our league baseball/softball schedules are just 10 games. This is in two and one half months. Mainland schools for example will play 30-35 games and provide a student athlete much more exposure and competitive opportunities. Also all travel for post season's tournaments and play offs cannot be funded and the cost of travel for such events is required to be paid for by team fund raising or parental contributions. The mode of travel is also at issue because we have found necessary to reduce number of boys and girls who can travel, have volunteers/parents provide transportation. Cuts hit at the same time gas costs went up and added additional burdens to travel costs.

**Resources for supplies and equipment:** Each year the accumulative effect of loss of funds for supplies and replacement of equipment has mounted. Teams either are required to limit numbers of participants, ask the parents or students to purchase their own equipment, stretch the use of equipment or do without. It is impossible to scrimp and save on the equipment required by rule for the health, safety and welfare of the student athlete. **Example:** Our annual budget for equipment and supplies for our sports (49 teams) doesn't come close to meeting our needs. Our allocation is \$ 9000.00, nearly half of that amount goes toward the refurbishing and the re-certification of our football equipment. Which leaves very little for the necessary equipment for the annual expendable items to operate our program.

**The reduction of opportunities for competition and the dropping of sports to keep cost down.** The limitations of funds for game travel, reduced budgets for equipment and



supplies have acted to reduce dramatically the competitive opportunities. It is obvious this consequence strikes at the heart of what learning opportunities we are challenged to provide. THE GAME IS THE THING. As budgets were negatively impacted dramatic reductions in the number of games were instituted and still remain as a serious obstacle in provided our student athletes ample opportunities to reach their full potential.

In closing, I would like to ask each of you on the committee to think of a Hawai`I devoid of sports in our high schools. It may sound far fetched but the continued lack of fiscall support will in short order bring that about. The restoration of funds back to the 2008-09 levels, with the associated increases due to inflation, will go a long way in seeing that doesn't happen.

Mahalo, for your consideration of this testimony.

February 10, 2014

Dear Committee Members,

I am in support of SB 3083, to restore athletic allocations that were reduced in 2008-09. As an Athletic Director it has been a challenging time. Over the past 4-5 years, we have reduced our coaching staff to one paid coach per team. It is a concern for safety as well as proper supervision. Luckily we have many assistant coaches who have volunteered to be a part of our program. But if our paid coach is absent or sick, we have to shut down practice.

Our transportation and equipment supply cost has gone up due to the fuel charges. If we qualify for HHSAA Post –Season Tournaments, our teams need to fund raise just to get there. Being in a league that’s tri-isle (Molokai, Lanai, and Maui), it puts a strain on our fundraising efforts to run the league. We have to reduce the number of participants that are able to play in the various tournaments and league games because of travel cost. By restoring the athletic funding that was reduced in 2008-09, we will be able to provide our student-athletes better equipment and facilities. We will increase student participation and reduce the fundraisers taxing our community.

Sincerely Yours,

Michael Ban  
Maui High AD

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**SB3083**

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 10, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendell Sarme	Individual	Support	No

Comments: February 6, 2014 Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Education RE: SB 3083, Relating to School Athletics – Support Monday, February 10, 2014, 1:15 PM, Conference Room 414 - State Capitol Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Education Committee: I am testifying in support of SB 3083 to provide funding and staffing for the DOE School Athletics Program for fiscal year 2014-2015. Lanai High School receives approximately \$24,000/year from the state to cover all of its off-island transportation costs. I am very grateful for whatever funding we receive from the state, but because of our geographical remoteness and the high cost of travel from Lanai to other islands for away games, this funding is simply not enough. On Lanai, teams must fundraise throughout the year and players and coaches make many sacrifices. Some of the equipment and uniforms, for example, haven't been replaced in years, and we've learned to make do with limited supplies. Students sleep on gym floors, wrestling room mats and parents are responsible for providing meals for their children every time the team travels to play an off-island opponent. These costs, as well as the rigorous travel – most times by ferry – put our student athletes at a competitive disadvantage. We all know that sports teaches kids good values such as hard work, discipline, team work, humility, commitment and responsibility. These are lessons that students will carry with them throughout their lives. I would like to see more of these opportunities available to Lanai High students. For these reasons, I humbly ask for your support to pass this bill and give our kids the opportunity to participate in athletics and benefit from all the important lessons sports teaches them. Sincerely, Wendell Sarme

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**SB3083**

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 10, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonie Sarme	Individual	Support	No

Comments: February 6, 2014 Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Education RE: SB 3083, Relating to School Athletics – Support Monday, February 10, 2014, 1:15 PM, Conference Room 414 - State Capitol Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Education Committee: I am testifying in support of SB 3083 to provide funding and staffing for the DOE School Athletics Program for fiscal year 2014-2015. Lanai High School receives approximately \$24,000/year from the state to cover all of its off-island transportation costs. I am very grateful for whatever funding we receive from the state, but because of our geographical remoteness and the high cost of travel from Lanai to other islands for away games, this funding is simply not enough. On Lanai, teams must fundraise throughout the year and players and coaches make many sacrifices. Some of the equipment and uniforms, for example, haven't been replaced in years, and we've learned to make do with limited supplies. Students sleep on gym floors, wrestling room mats and parents are responsible for providing meals for their children every time the team travels to play an off-island opponent. These costs, as well as the rigorous travel – most times by ferry – put our student athletes at a competitive disadvantage. We all know that sports teaches kids good values such as hard work, discipline, team work, humility, commitment and responsibility. These are lessons that students will carry with them throughout their lives. I would like to see more of these opportunities available to Lanai High students. For these reasons, I humbly ask for your support to pass this bill and give our kids the opportunity to participate in athletics and benefit from all the important lessons sports teaches them. Sincerely, Jonie Sarme

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**SB3083**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 10, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Donavan Kealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB3083**

Submitted on: 2/8/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 10, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Dougherty	Seabury Hall	Support	No

Comments: My name is Robert Dougherty and I am the Athletic Director at Seabury Hall on Maui. Since the reduction in school funding for athletics, I have seen many schools struggle to get enough coaches to coach their student/athletes, struggle to transport athletes, and seen reductions in some programs. The bottom line is that these reductions have impacted negatively the very people we should never hurt, our students.

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**SB3083**

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 10, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stacie Nii	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Athletic programs have been struggling across the state. These monies will help pay coaches that are volunteering. Coaches are limited in most cases to one per sport for athletic programs. Coaches supervision of the student athletes is very important, but it's difficult to mandate that volunteers be present at practices. Transportation has also been cut. We have been Fundraising just to make enough monies to provide transportation for student athletes to get to the venues. Athletic Directors are struggling to keep their programs afloat. In turn, trying to decide which sports will have to be cut.

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**SB3083**

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 10, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Romeo Eleno	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Senator Tokuda and Committee members, My name is Romeo Eleno and currently work at Lanai High & Elementary School. In the past, I've been honored to have been able to coach Boys Varsity Volleyball as the head coach for over 10 years and have seen a positive impact with our students academically, physically, socially, and individually. However, over the years our athletic programs have been under funded which has been an issue for an isolated Island such as Lana'i. Many times we would limit the number of student athletes traveling to another Island to keep the cost down. In addition, many times we would spend money out of our own pockets for basic needs and equipment for our student-athletes. I sincerely hope you can find a way to restore the funding for Hawaii High School Athletics. Again, please support SB 3083. Mahalo, Romeo Eleno Health/PE Teacher, Lanai High & Elementary School 555 Fraser Ave. Lanai City, HI 96763 (808) 565-7900 x278 [romeo\\_eleno@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:romeo_eleno@notes.k12.hi.us)

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**SB3083**

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for EDU on Feb 10, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hokulani Haliniak	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Before accepting the athletic director position at Molokai High School, I was warned about the travel situation for the athletes. What I failed to understand is Molokai High School travels from island to island. I did not realize that the athletes don't return to Molokai, they have to sleep in gyms, ride broken and unsafe buses as well as riding a boat for 90 minutes, just to compete. With rising cost of fuel and travel, there may be more difficult cuts if the budget is not returned to normal. The budget was cut for all public schools in 2008, which caused all public schools to make difficult cuts for their athletic programs. I am asking that the 25% that was cut be returned to all public schools. I am not asking for more or less, just return the 25% to all public school so our athletic programs can have a little breathing room for the future. Thank you for your time.

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