



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Wednesday, February 18, 2015
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of
HB759, HD1
RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) offers comments on this measure which directs that DBEDT consult with the Department of Education (DOE) and other State agencies to conduct a comprehensive study and develop a master strategy for the cooling of all public schools.

DBEDT has worked with the DOE on a number of efforts, such as their High Performance Schools, and will continue to do so. At present, the DOE has entered into a contract with an energy company to implement the *Ka Hei* sustainable energy program. This multiyear effort will address a number of concerns before the DOE. DBEDT is ready to provide analysis on deployment options for high impact solutions consistent with our clean energy agenda and statutory responsibilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION
ON
FEBRUARY 18, 2015

H.B. 759, H.D. 1

RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

Chair Takumi and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on H.B. 759, H.D. 1.

Pursuant to Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) has a limited role in the repair and alterations for the Department of Education's public school facilities. However, we recognize the value of including DAGS in the measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.



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

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON EDUCATION

DATE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015

RE: H.B. 759 - RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

PERSON TESTIFYING: WIL OKABE
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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

The Honorable Chair Roy Takumi, Honorable Vice-Chair Takashi Ohno and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) **supports H.B. 759, H.D. 1**, relating to air-conditioning in public school facilities.

HSTA is the exclusive representative of more than 13,500 public and charter school teachers statewide. As the state affiliate, of the 3.2 million members of the National Education Association, HSTA believes that schools need air conditioning and that the condition of the schools physical plant impacts the health, safety, and welfare of students and staff members.

Our public schools are hot. At times, the heat index inches closer to 100 degrees during the summer, fall and spring. Students and teachers who work in these schools try to keep cool without the benefit of air conditioning in the classroom. At times, when a classroom becomes unbearable, teachers resort to turning the lights off, purchasing their own fans, and water breaks are frequent (if there is a water fountain available at the school) to name of few of the strategies to keep students comfortable as temperatures soar. Other schools are rotating students into air-conditioned libraries or computer labs to cool off, and some are even changing the day's lesson to avoid the heat and fatigue related to the environment.

It is well known that many of our educational facilities are in a state of decay, neglect, and/or deterioration. The association supports funding to modernize, expand, replace, and/or maintain these facilities with air conditioning in order to provide a safe, healthy, and effective teaching and learning environment for students and employees. The association further believes that the community, parent/guardians, students and education employees must be effectively involved in the development of the plans to modernize, expand and/or replace air-conditioning units.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of H.B. 759, H.D. 1**.



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Executive Director

**TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 759, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO COOLING
SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES**

**House Committee on Education
Hon. Roy M Takumi, Chair
Hon. Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair**

**Wednesday, February 18, 2015, 2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309**

Honorable Chairs Takumi and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing the IMU Alliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 300 members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of, with proposed amendments for House Bill 759, House Draft 1, relating to cooling systems in public school facilities.

Studies show that the percentile gap between conditioned and non-conditioned environments can exceed 10 points on achievement tests, clearly evincing the impact of a comfortable environment on student success. In a longitudinal analysis contained in “Effects of the Physical Environment on Student Learning,” Glen I. Earthman of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University found that students between 4th and 9th grade at demographically similar schools showed increased gains in reading vocabulary, total math, problem solving, math procedures, pre-writing, and editing at schools with air conditioning, when compared with peers from non-conditioned schools. Moreover, Earthman demonstrated that the longer and more consistently students are exposed to thermal conditioning, the better and more stable their performance gains tend to be. Conversely, students exposed to thermal conditioning for only short or intermittent periods of time demonstrated lower achievement levels compared to their peers. These findings are supported by U.S. Department of Education sponsored research and facilities maintenance positions, which state that proper thermal conditioning systems lead to better attitudes toward learning, fewer disciplinary problems, and sustained achievement (McGuffey 1982, Cash 1993). While we applaud the Hawaii State Department of Education for requesting \$25 million in supplemental funds to cool local classrooms over the next year, previous DOE estimates of the cost to provide air conditioning at all schools currently lacking such systems have soared past \$1.5 billion. Thus, if policymakers' goal is to improve air conditioning facilities systemwide—in which temperatures at some classrooms regularly and persistently surpass 100 degrees—a long-term fiscal plan of action is imperative.

That said, **we encourage the committee to amend the list of factors enumerated for consideration contained Section 1 of the bill to include an additional point, stating: “Potential cost savings generated by renewable energy technology.”** In conversations with photovoltaic companies, like RevoluSun (Hawaii's leading solar installer and clean energy integrator), advocates have learned that employing off-grid DC-powered air conditioners, operated entirely (100 percent) from photovoltaic modules that store energy in power-saving batteries, could cost between \$15,000 to \$30,000 per classroom, a savings of approximately 70 percent from DOE projections (discounting a monthly lease per-classroom payment that could be offset by the department's ongoing and all-encompassing renewable energy savings). We recognize that such a plan would need to be thoroughly vetted by state financial advisors, department officials, and policymakers, but believe that the possible revenue savings brought about by renewable energy technology are significant enough to warrant strong consideration by the department, to be explicitly called for by the proposal.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Executive Director
IMUAlliance

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi,
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Education on Committee

From: Amber-Taylor Rivera

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATION TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC
SCHOOL FACILITIES

As a student at James Campbell High School, our classrooms reach 100 degrees this past school year. It is very unfortunate to learn in this heat due to the fact that students are focusing on getting the fan next to them than learning about Hamlet or the pythagorean theorem. Growing up not going to an air conditioning school, I know what it is like to sweat in a classroom and feel very uncomfortable sitting in a seat for hours trying to focus on what the teacher is teaching. The fact that some classrooms are air conditioning is what I'm thankful for, but in the afternoon, when the sun is scorching, is when I have classes that do not have air conditioning and that is when I cannot focus. If all schools in Hawai'i get air conditioning then all students can focus on learning than focusing on hogging the fan.

Schools on the mainland close if temperatures get too hot, but in Hawai'i, we are forced to stay in school no matter what the temperature is. In Denver, schools close or release students early when the heat gets too extreme. Students in Hawai'i have to endure these hot temperatures while learning in school. When people are cutting the grass outside, we close our doors to help lower the sound, but that only leaves students with a hot classroom. If mainland schools get to close due to extreme temperatures, why does Hawai'i school have to stay open when our classrooms reach 90 degrees to 100 degrees? Does 100 degrees in a classroom with 30 other students not sound like a good enough reason to give Hawai'i school air conditioning? The DOE said it themselves when their air conditioning system broke down. State Sen. Jill Tokuda says, "Environmental conditions always impact one's ability to work."

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Cara-McKenzie Winters

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

My name is Cara-McKenzie Winters and I am a senior at James Campbell High School, I recently enrolled into this school my junior year. I never realized how hot public schools could be coming from a private school until I came to James Campbell High School. I think all public schools in Hawaii should all get air conditioning because due to the temperatures in classrooms it gets up to 100 degrees. In each class there are about 30-35 students the temperature gets even higher than 100 degrees when there are no fans and the classroom lights are on. For me personally it's hard to focus and learn when the teacher is teaching because the heat in the classroom is distracting. Students and teachers get nauseated, headaches and having to buy bottles and bottles of water to keep themselves cool through the school day. The teachers spend their own money to buy fans to make the classrooms cooler and easier to learn and pay attention.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Chase Judd

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

My name is Chase Judd and I am a student at James Campbell High School. Public schools in Hawaii deserve to have air conditioning in every classroom. Public schools can reach up to 100 degrees from August-October. I have a class that does not have air conditioning and it was around 95 degrees in there. In that class, everyone had their heads down, falling asleep due to the heat. One of my classmates fainted right in front of me. This extreme heat that students and teachers have to deal with hinders the schools performance. Students can't deliver their highest quality of work because they are fatigued and the heat gets to them. I've had some teachers that couldn't go on with the lesson because it was too hot in the classroom.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cristelle Corpuz	Individual	Support	No

To Chairperson: Roy Takumi
Vice chairperson: Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Crystalyn Fermin

Subject: Support for HB759. RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

My name is Crystalyn Fermin and I am student at James Campbell High School. I strongly believe that Hawaii public schools should have air conditioning because during the year classrooms get to about 90 degrees daily and students are not able to do anything about it. I have been in a classroom that has been over high 90's and it was hot and humid. It was hard to concentrate in class because all the students was only focused on was how hot it was. Many people created paper fans just because classrooms with fans were still hot for many people. In Denver, schools close down just because their classrooms reached 80 degrees, while temperatures in Hawaii are at 80 degrees. When Campbell protested for air conditioning on September 26 the DOE's air conditioning shut off as well. They were able to go home and for a week they complained of having headaches. This is how Hawaii's public schools feel on a regular school day and we are still not seeing results at our school.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Dane Obenario

Subject: Support for HB759, REALATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

As a student at James Campbell High School, it is really hot in our classrooms and people said that it has reached 100 degrees in some classrooms. When it's hot, some people have a hard time concentrating which leads to grades dropping. It's really hard to stay warm in class when there are only two fans in the classroom and someone is always hogging both of them. All across the U.S. schools are being canceled due to heat but in Hawaii, schools are not canceled due to heat so students have to go to school and suffer from the heat. Inside the building where the Department of Education works at, the A/C broke and the workers complained about headaches and nausea. So they got to go home from work early. When classrooms are hot at school, we have to stay in school and suffer. So I think that public schools in Hawaii should have A/C so we can concentrate better and keep our grades up.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Dendrick Amigo

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

My name is Dendrick Amigo and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I strongly support HB759. There is a significant problem dealing with ridiculously high temperatures in Hawaii classrooms. High temperatures affect students and teachers in learning environments because of the fatigue and irritableness it brings. One room in Campbell had gotten as hot as 100 degrees, which is just 5 degrees below the point of having a heat stroke. Learning in high temperatures is extremely difficult and there shouldn't be an unnecessary difficulty when it comes to learning. The solution to this unnecessary difficulty is to add ac systems in all classrooms.

To Chairperson: Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson: Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Gerick Banga

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

My name is Gerick Banga and I am currently a senior in James Campbell High School. Hawaii is a tropical paradise because of its hot climate which makes it a great vacation hot spot. While great for tourists or beachgoers, the high temperatures are more of a detriment for students and staff who are in great need of air conditioning to battle the searing menace. This is especially true in the fall and early summer in which temperatures in classrooms reach an excess of 90 degrees and above reaching as high as 100 degrees. Students and teachers can't really focus on education since all they are thinking of is the heat roasting away any semblance of concentration. Most teachers and students, including myself, have experienced such mind-numbing heat waves and heavily agree with this bill.

Have you ever stepped into a classroom and counted the amount of Hydro Flasks or similar water containment devices? Quite a lot these days. Most students and teachers seemingly in a collective motion bought such items for one encompassing reason: the heat. I, myself, have a Hydro Flask and cherish it deeply. While some may argue that this will ameliorate the situation, it does not fix it. Most Hydro Flasks are pretty pricey depending on the size and a water bottle is not going to correct the heat that is intrinsic to its environment.

All in all, I implore you to take this bill into consideration and make changes as soon as possible. It would do all able students and teachers a great service. Just imagine helping out many teachers who teach lessons in the miserable heat and aiding a lot of students with concentration on their rigorous courses like Calculus. If you fail to act, then our level of concentration is going to be like the limit of a

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi

Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno

Members of the House Committee on Education

From Heather MacLeod

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

My name is Heather MacLeod and I am a student currently enrolled in James Campbell High School. I strongly support HB759. Many studies have been taken which clearly show the direct correlation between temperature and students behaviors and their ability to learn and function properly. When temperatures become too hot or too cold, "the brain is constantly reminding the body to do something about the condition," (LearningStyles, 2009). The students shiver and shake when too cold, and when it becomes too hot they complain relentlessly and sweat uncomfortably without being able to do anything about it. The constant interruptions make it hard for students to stay focused which in-turn affects each individual's educational opportunities.

Not only are the student's suffering and losing their opportunities to receive a good education that will lead to a successful future, but the schools themselves are being criticized for the lack of air-conditioning. Several parents have addressed the school administrators and principles about their concern for their children's health. Hawaii has problems with noise pollution, vog, and now heat. Many individuals have asthma or other such conditions that make their immune systems fragile, and the constant heat can reach such extreme levels that they make have a heat stroke, asthma attack, or many other dangerous reactions to the heat. Last year a teacher at Campbell High School recorded his thermostat that reached on hundred degrees. Many other school's throughout the United States close down and send student's home when the temperatures reach such extremities. The Department of Education executives even went home when their air conditioning broke and the heat became too much. For a week and a half, they felt the student's daily struggle and suffering, but you were able to leave work early and even miss a few days. Student's on the other hand, do not have that luxury, and are stuck in their classes during the hottest points of the day. It is interesting how the executives fixed their own air conditioning and still found our protest to be invalid. A student's education should be worth the cost of a new air conditioner, since we are the future and must represent our state and country to the best of our potential.

The major issue that many state officials have with giving air conditioning to the school's whom need it, is the fact that it will cost the state too much. However, there are many solutions to this problem that should be considered. Many state lawmakers believe that it will cost \$2.5 million dollars to update the current air conditioners, and around \$10 million dollars to place air conditioning in all of the classrooms. This is an exaggeration if you take into consideration the new electronic air conditioning systems available. A new electronic air conditioning system

called the Photovoltaic air conditioning is a power system that is designed to supply usable solar power to your air conditioner more effectively and at a much cheaper cost. This integrated battery solution works more effectively and is able to power more air conditioning units than most systems. Therefore, finances are not necessarily a major issue.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hilkeah Mae Badua	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairman: Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Hilkeah Mae Badua Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES. My name is Hilkeah Mae Badua and I am a senior at James Campbell High School and our school has been experiencing the struggle for AC in classes. These past few years, our school has been experiencing the rise in heat temperature which then leads to a drop of students not functioning in classes. With the drop of educational function, our school tends to lead in a drop of classroom work and grades. I strongly believe that not only our school should receive air conditioning but other schools as well from grades 1-12. With an average of 90 degrees, students have been overwhelmed by the heat and that can lead to physical and mental problems with solutions that are not well enough recognized. In our school, I have experienced dizziness and drowsiness due to the heat and the air. Lately, Hawaii's air has been known to be polluted due to pollution coming from Asia such as China and also from smoke from moving vehicles such as buses and trucks. These physical traits of air has been giving students the struggle for staying focused in class and for also going through the day without complaints. The heat has been a benefactor for tourists in order to enjoy their vacations. Even though they are loving the heat, us students that go to school have been experiencing the opposite. Now, I often see students bringing in umbrellas and hat along with fans due to the lack of air condition in classrooms. Students also has classrooms that require electric fans and ceiling fans but such item isn't enough to cool down the 20-30 students in each class. Students also fan themselves with notebooks and papers in and out of the classrooms. I've once heard a story about our school having a fire drill one day and when everyone was evacuating to parks and close by communities, girls and guys faint to the body heat from everyone else and due to the heat outdoors. On Oahu, all public schools from Elementary through High should replace their ceiling fans with AC and that can lead to better improvement on not only test scores but also the improvement of staying healthy and physically fit rather than having multiple trips to the health office or worse, a closure in school.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Ohno
Members of the House Chairperson Takashi

From: Jane Sherisse Coloma

Subject: Support for HB759. TO COOLING SYSTEM IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

My name is Jane Sherisse Coloma and I am currently a senior at James Campbell High School. I strongly support this act because evidently public schools in Hawaii, temperatures rise up to 80-100 degrees. With that being said without having ac in some classrooms goes to a downward spiral to students learning abilities such like when it gets too hot students tend to complain and not focus to lesson that their teacher is giving to them. Some schools across the United States close down due to the act that it is "too hot" or a "heat wave" maybe. Schools in Denver and Wisconsin have cancelled due to "it's too hot" when in reality 80 degrees is nothing compared to what Hawaii students have to deal with.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on education

From: Jazmenn Bazile

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

This issue of Hawaii schools seems like no big deal for those looking in, but to us whom are trapped in the issue realise the true intensity and effect on us as students on a daily. Some of the student of the HDOE (Hawaii Department of Education) would begin to consider the fact that hawaii does not value their students, especially after hearing about the school in states such as Iowa, and Denver which “closed down due to heat” (school site) which rose up to about 80 degrees; research has shown that schools of hawaii, specifically James Campbell High School which has gone above 90 degree countless amount of times. Us hawaii students are set with this roadblock in our education simply due to the conditions we are provided with. With air conditioning, I and my peers genuinely believe that we could learn more on a day by day basis, perhaps be encouraged as well to come to school, and not dread the deadly heat conditions of our so sacred learning environment.

It may be brought up, that not all Hawaii school lack air conditioning. This is in fact true; but why should only a select few suffer, why should only a few matter? Giving the results and learning that more than just those schools chosen to be on the *hawaii valuable list*, are in need, I hope that those who may be able to make a change/ or take that second to make a difference do just that. To provide a simple base, or starting point for those who may care; a teacher of mine has surfaced an idea that may not only save money but save our students as well, it is called P.V.A.C (Photovoltaic Air Conditioning), I hope that whomever reads this and can imagine my point of view; will strive to make a change, and possibly save my peers and my own education, and perhaps our future!

Thank you for your time,
Jazmenn

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Joelle Esmay Ugalino

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

I am writing to you to bring up the fact that public schools in Hawaii are in need of air condition. As a student at James Campbell High School, trying to focus in class is impossible because every student is trying to wave themselves with their folders to stay cool. It is incredibly difficult for a teacher to teach when their students are slouched down focusing too much on the heat.

Schools in Denver, Wisconsin and Iowa had schools closed down for a couple of days because their schools got up to 80 degrees. In Hawaii during the summer, the classes here go up to 90 degrees, but students are forced to attend school and pay attention in class. It isn't fair that Hawaii kids are forced to go to school in 90+ degree classes, while mainland schools can take the day off just because the temperature hit 80 degrees.

Three years ago when I was a freshmen I had no AC classrooms. My third period was a math class and it was the worst class because it was right after lunch and it was during the middle of the day, when the sun was right above our heads and beaming on us. My teacher would be in a bad mood everyday from all the heat and 40 students crowding in one room made things worse. My teacher could only afford two fans, and every day each student would run into the class as if they were fighting to the death. The funny thing is that we would all fight for fans that blow hot air in our faces. Every day my teacher would get really mad at us for using our math textbooks as fans. We would get distracted by the heat and it would frustrate each and everyone one of us.

Thank you for your time,

Joelle Esmay Ugalino.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Member of the House Committee on Education

From: Kaheela Reid

Subject: Support for HB759,RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

My name is Kaheela Reid a student from James Campbell High School. The reason I am writing is to complain about students having to sit in high temperatures, and are expected to not only focus but produce quality work. I remember sitting in class and in the middle of the lesson we had to stop to get the nurse because a student had passed out. The only good thing about the situation was that someone had caught her. What would have happen if she had fallen and hit her head? She could have had a concussion or even memory loss. I personally have headaches because of the heat, once it gets too hot I get a migraines that last up to a week. The heat also causes nose bleeds, myself and other students at school have had nose bleeds. This is something at school many students may have a panic attack over because they do not know the cause and are worried that they are really sick. The heat also makes it hard to focus in class as you constantly feel you are about to pass and you hear nothing the teacher has said for that entire day. My solution to the problem is to get air conditioning installed at my school. I know that this is a costly project however a PVAC system can be used instead of the regular air conditioning system. This cuts the cost of installing each air condition unit, and saving enough money to be used for other projects.

Many may argue that there are other important issues such as the homeless in our country. Yes but most people are homeless because they did not get a proper education in school, this results in them being uneducated or unqualified for many jobs. If there is air conditioning in school more students will be able to learn resulting in a decrease in the unemployment rate and the amount of homeless people in the county. This will happen because more students will graduate and hopefully go to university and start their own businesses and create job opportunities for others.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Member of the House Committee on Education

From: Lauren Galiza

Subject: Support of HB759. RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

Hawaii public schools should have air conditioning because it's harder for students to concentrate in the heat. They have environmental discomfort over the lack of air conditioning which makes it difficult for students to learn. In my four years of high school, I have experienced extreme heat of about 100 degrees in my English class and it overwhelmed me yet, it was tough to focus on my work. Teachers, such as Rosenlee, have also agreed that the temperature in the room makes a difference in learning. When it's humid, everyone can feel it. It's like walking and sitting around in an oven for 7 hours. Surprisingly, students still showed up to school and for them to cope with the weather, they bring in wet cloths to cool off during class, wear deodorant multiple times a day for a pleasant odor, and always bringing extra shirt or wearing revealing clothes to cool off. This proves that the heat makes it harder for students to concentrate. Not having a way to cool off when it's humid makes everyone struggle because they lose the energy they have to keep going and focus.

To Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Marvi Saragena

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

Hawaii Public Schools should have air conditioning in their classrooms because the classrooms can reach from about 90-100 degrees during the day. The heat within a classroom can really affect the way the students learn and take initiative in their education. In my own experience, I have witnessed many people who focus on the heat more than their work in class. Cooling themselves down would be more important because the heat can really get to the students by making them dehydrated, impacting their health. Students leave class just to buy themselves water from the vending machines and most of the times, the vending machines don't even have water. With cooler classrooms, the children wouldn't need to cool themselves down as much as they do now. Students have to deal with broken oscillating fans and ceiling fans that don't really make much of a difference because of the lack of air circulation in a class. Stepping out of the classroom, nose bleeds, and even fainting are all negative examples of what really happens around us. There is nothing positive about not having air conditioning in a classroom because it only leads to problems. Students fight over the limited amount of fans given to them and with something that provides cool air to every single person, it will solve the fighting. My friend has a problem with sweating a lot because of the heat and sometimes, we would get too hot to the point where his nose started to bleed. Others around the world are forced to go home because of the heat ranging from the 80s, but students in Hawaii have to deal with temperatures higher than that, everyday.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Nicole Ganut

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

I am a senior at James Campbell High School class of 2015. I believe that every public schools in Hawaii should have air conditioning. As a student, I have experienced the trouble of focusing during class because of the effect of uncomfortable weather. Being enclosed in a room for atleast an hour and twenty minutes adds up to the average temperature (84°F) that Hawaii already have resulting into almost a 100 °F . The sticky feeling that sweat does and the continuously movement of hands fanning our hot body causes distractions to students especially during exams. Which then result into bad test scores. The learning of students isn't the only one affected by the hot weather, it falls through a chain, from distratcions, to not being able to function or focus, resulting to bad test scores, then to not being able to ahieve the academic standards, which then lead to students suffering on their future goals/careers which can affect the society economically and socially. I support air conditions for every Hawaii public schools not only for myself but for every students who are the future of our world.

Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Nina Huffman-Chun

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

As a student at James Campbell High School, a public school here in Hawaii, I support HB759. There have been countless times where I have been in class, unable to focus because I was too hot. There are schools in Baltimore that have been closed because "temperatures were expected to get up to 93".(WBALTV, 2013) Schools in Hawaii have been known to reach temperatures of 95 and higher, one teacher at Campbell has even reported his classroom reaching a high of 100 degrees.

These temperatures make it difficult for the brain to focus on the tasks being presented. I can recall many instances where I was in a classroom, trying to do my work, but I was unable to focus because I was trying to keep myself comfortable. I couldn't grasp the underlying theme of Romeo and Juliet, because my mind was trying to find ways to keep myself from sweating through my shirt. Psychology shows that "the physical characteristics of learning environments can affect learners emotionally, with important cognitive and behavioral consequences.

Although emotional reactions to environmental stimuli have been shown to vary widely across individuals and activities, most students would probably find learning difficult in a classroom that is stiflingly warm." (Educause,2015) I believe it is safe to say that those cognitive consequences, brought on by the hot learning environment, are becoming more and more severe.

I believe these problems could at least be alleviated, if we were given the funds to install AC in our public schools.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Education Committee on Education

From: Remson Mercado

Support: for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

My name is Remson Mercado and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I strongly support HB759. The atmosphere and environment has a direct affect towards a student's behavior, concentration, and academic performance. At James Campbell High School, some classes have the potential to reach up to 100 degrees. In a situation like this, it can be incredibly difficult for students to concentrate and focus on completing a task given to them. "Student performance, attitude, and behavior improved in proper air conditioned climates making it easier to concentrate and making them feel less drowsy and fatigued." (Nolan, 1960). Study shows that students that are in an ideal thermal environment made far less errors on tasks and require less time to complete those tasks than the students in the controlled thermal environments. DOE executives had a first-hand experience in working in an uncomfortable environment after the AC unit in the Queen Liliuokalani Building has broken down. Many of the DOE executives were quote, "miserable" and reported of having headaches nausea due to the uncomfortable thermal environment. In conclusion, a person performs much better in ideal thermal environment than a person whom is in an environment with unsuitable conditions.

Thank you for taking the time to review my testimony.

Sincerely,
Remson Mercado

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Sydney Baron
Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

Hawaii Public Schools need air conditioning in their classrooms because the heat within a classroom can affect a student's way of learning. Hawaii Public Schools have classrooms that can reach 90-100 degrees during the day. This is not a safe learning environment for students. I have seen many people focus more on the heat and how it affects them than their lesson in class. Students get affected negatively by the heat because they become dehydrated and fatigued. Being dehydrated has students leaving class just to find a vending machine to buy a water and a lot of the time the vending machines are out of water. Schools in Denver and Wisconsin closed last year because their classrooms went into the 80's. Campbell High School has to deal with higher temperatures than that on a daily basis. While some schools say that they are not in need of the air conditioning, there are a lot of schools that are. The DOE executives went without air conditioning for a week and they were miserable. Hawaii News Now supported the Hawaii Public Schools while covering this story saying "While hot in the office building many students and teachers are expected to work in stifling conditions every day. Only a dozen of the 255 public school campuses in the state are fully air conditioned."(Hawaii News Now, 2014) Hawaii Public Schools need to get air conditioning because students don't deserve being put in these harsh conditions and expected to learn and thrive.

Thank you for your time,
Sydney Baron

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi

Chairperson Mike Takashi Ohno

Members of the Senate Committee on Education

From: Cassidy Rock

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

Imagine sweat pooling at the back of your legs, heat radiating off of you and the 30 other people around you as you stay cramped in a classroom that's 90-100 degrees, every day for your four years of high school. My name is Cassidy Rock and I'm a senior at James Campbell High School. I'd like to bring forth a problem that has never properly been addressed.

James Campbell is just one of the many schools in Hawaii without air conditioning. The few classrooms that do have AC are for administrators, so most students don't ever receive the benefits a cool classroom can offer. The ideal classroom temperature is 72 degrees, and the students sit in classrooms that reach the 90's and even 100's. It's excruciatingly difficult to teach, yet alone learn, in an environment this hot. This problem is affecting my ability to learn and to concentrate. I'd like this issue to be resolved, as well as numerous others.

I am fortunate to be one of the few students who have an AC classroom, and I can say that it truly does affect my ability to learn and to obtain good grades. In the heat I'm too busy trying to keep cool and get comfortable that I can't focus on the task my teacher has assigned me. I'm sure that it'd be immensely harder for you to complete your work if you had to sit in a room that was boiling with 30 other colleagues body heat on top of the 80 degrees already sticking its way onto your skin. This problem is not only affecting my grades, but my ability to get a quality education.

My proposal is that we try and get a cooling system like AC's in the classrooms, not only in my school but other schools who need it just as much. I know that you can find a solution to such a simple problem that could change the way students go about their education. This would be momentarily appreciated.

Sincerely,

Cassidy Rock

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chelsea delacruz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Chelsea Dela Cruz Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES I am a senior at James Campbell High School struggling to focus in class when the temperature is heating at 90-95 degrees. Whether it's too hot or too cold temperatures creates a big impact on student productivity, in this case Campbell is way too hot. During my sophomore year, most of my classes were in buildings that had no AC and it would be difficult to concentrate especially being surrounded by 35 other students. Students suddenly rush to the seat that is in front of fan, but the fan only blows hot air. "A heat wave with high humidity can sometimes cause us to feel like we are lacking energy." (Zurich, 2015). At our school heat has become a serious problem that affect many of the students and with improved air conditioning and proper fan ventilation systems will have a better impact on students learning environment and reduce poor performances due to the heat. Thank you, Chelsea Dela Cruz

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From Christian Payne

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN
PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

I'm writing this letter because of the concern of my fellow student, staff and I here at James Campbell High School. The concern arises from the rise in temperatures in our classrooms and also the fact that we only have one building with complete central air conditioning. It is to my understanding that Campbell High School is in the top 8 schools who need air conditioning. This topic should not be undermined; this is a serious problem in our school systems that causes students to not focus enough on school but on being cool and comfortable. A study done by three students from Westview High School in Oregon proved that temperature drastically affects students' ability to focus. "<http://healthyschools.cefp.org>" On the mainland, schools in the past have closed because of temperatures exceeding 88 degrees. Also, they rarely have humid temperatures like we have here in Hawaii. Humid temperatures increase the risk of dehydration and heat stroke. I hope you understand our point of view here at James Campbell High School.

Thank you for your time,
Christian Payne

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah Fuentes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takuni Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Deborah Fuentes Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES. Hello, my name is Deborah Fuentes. I am a senior in James Campbell High school who is dealing with this oven heat as I type. I was taught that schools are where students go to learn educational and life skills, but how do students learn if the teachers and the students are unable to put their full focus in class because of the burning heat inside the classroom. James Campbell High school is the largest school in the state of Hawaii with approximately 30 students in most of the classes. In this public school, with this many students in one class, not involving the heat, the teachers may sometimes have difficulties with having a lesson to go smoothly. With the heat involved, the teachers now have to deal with students complaining every minute about their oven classrooms.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dominic Allen Domingo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Dominic Allen Domingo Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

Schools prioritize its students education but how can students focus if they are always distracted by the heat in their classroom. "Classrooms in Campbell can go up to 100 degrees every afternoon," and it's always difficult for teachers to teach students that are continually trying to cool down. Instead of focusing on the lesson, they'll be too busy trying to survive from the humidity. My name is Dominic Allen Domingo and I am a senior in James Campbell High School. Throughout the four years I have attended James Campbell High School, I've never experienced a day without having to use my folder as a fan, so I can somehow stay awake and learn that day. I am here to address this problem that many Public School's are experiencing and something should be done for heated classrooms.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J-Ron	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: J-Ron Irons Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC FACILITIES Being a student at James Campbell High school can be difficult due to the heat, I have four classes; two of them without air conditioner. The difficulties is the constant sweat, feeling of being exhausted, and that irritating feeling of being sticky from the sweat, all of which makes class jaded, and makes focusing more of a daunting task. Research has shown that high level of humidity along with hot weather can lower scores on concentration, while increasing sleepiness (Do Classroom Temperatures affect A Students Ability To Learn?, www.screenflex.com). As student, I would like to ask that you consider this bill, and think about the future that you are investing in the next generation of young adults, that will shape this country, and affect the quality of our education. Thank you, J-Ron Irons

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaitlyn Schneiderhan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Kaitlyn Schneiderhan Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES James Campbell High School is one of the many schools in Hawaii without the luxury of air conditioning throughout the school. One third of classrooms in campbell have ac which leaves many students out in the heat. Some days it is almost impossible to focus on what my teachers have to say and or doing the work they assign. To improve the student learning environment we must add AC.

To: Chairperson Michelle Kidani
Chairperson Mike Gabbard
Members of the Senate Committee on Education, Members of the Senate
Committee on Energy and Environment

From: Karl Abitz

Subject: Support for SB258, RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

My name is Karl Abitz and I am a senior at James Campbell High School. I have been at this school for four years since the fall of 2011 and I am a student that takes pride in my academic performance. High temperature classrooms are a problem of importance at James Campbell High School.

Although I believe that James Campbell High School is a great school, I found my experiences here learning to be unsatisfactory due to the conditions in which I have learned in. More than often, excluding the few air conditioned classrooms at JCHS, I find myself trying to learn and listen to the teacher in class while sweating a lot and feeling dizzy. Due to the high temperatures that emerge throughout the day in class, I often find myself unable to concentrate on the subject that we are supposed to be learning. I favor days of hard rain because on those days, it isn't as hot as normal days in class and I am finally able to concentrate and learn to my full extent.

Trying to learn under severe heat is a mentally and physically frustrating thing to do and even the smartest of students I know of have a hard time concentrating. Something needs to be done for the rest of the students that will be going to this school who are looking to learn a lot and exceed so that they may go to college. I would not like to see my younger sister go this problem and get lower marks because of this heat.

Classroom temperatures at James Campbell High School is a problem that needs to be dealt with so that the adults of the future may be better prepared to go into and run society. As a soon-to-graduate senior who could not learn in better temperature conditions, my only wish is that students who attend this school in the future will be able to learn without the frustration of sweat and headaches, so that they may go on to better society to their fullest extent. I support SB258.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth Concepcion	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education, From: Kenneth Concepcion Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES. Hello, my name is Kenneth Concepcion. I am currently a senior at James Campbell High School. I am writing a testimony to support the bill SB258. This bill is pertaining to giving public schools air conditioning. We need air condition in many public schools because the heat makes many student incapable to focus on learning. An example of this would be in the news article "Kids Rally to Cool Off James Campbell High", It states that that "When we have that hot classroom it's makes it hard for the kids to learn and no one can tell anyone that having 100 degrees is a fair and decent education," said Rosenlee". Seeing that a classroom's environment has reached 100 degrees, i believe that it would make learning strenuous because many student would be more engrossed in cooling off. Even though their is a bill about giving air condition to our public schools, the progress of this bill is moving slowly. Thus, we students and teachers have to experience working in this unfortunate environment while the Department of Education work in air conditioned offices. However, there was a time when the Department of Education's air condition unit broke. Since this happened, it have them a taste of the environment that we have to work and learn in. In the article, "DOE executives miserable working without A/C", it states, "Environmental conditions always impact one's ability to work," said Sen. Tokuda. "Heat is difficult for anyone to deal with and the kinds of conditions that they had to deal with because of this air conditioning break were very difficult". Since they experienced what us students and teacher have to go through five days a week. They should know the urgency of air condition in public schools. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Kenneth Concepcion

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the Senate Committee on Education. Members of the Senate
Committee on Energy and Environment

From: Kyle Cirilo

Subject: Support for HB759. RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL
FACILITIES

I am writing this letter for my school James Campbell High School and it's students and staff. The problem is the lack of air conditioning in most of our classrooms. For my fellow students it is hard to concentrate when it is so hot in our classrooms. Both teachers and students have to deal with the heat. Only a few classrooms have air conditioning installed in them. Because of the heat students get tired easily. Some have to put their heads down because they feel fatigue. Students also get dehydrated and always have to get up, leave the classroom and drink water. If we are always leaving the classroom we don't learn some stuff. The heat prevents students from concentrating on the task at hand. The result of this is less learning. The students performance goes down in hot temperatures. It is hard to focus when the heat is so high. It can be very uncomfortable when you're dripping in sweat and feeling all sticky. Especially in August where it gets really hot. You also start stinking up the class which is gross.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Lloyd Pagala

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

I am a senior at James Campbell High School who have been enduring learning in hundred degree classrooms for the last 3 years. Most of the classrooms can reach up to a hundred degrees, only about one third have air conditioning. Learning in these conditions is challenging for most of students. Hot classroom is an uncomfortable environment to learn. The heat gives students headaches, makes them nauseous, they sweat a lot and that tends to mess up their project that they are doing or making. Students can not think properly in these temperatures because they can not focus on their assigned tasks. Some students gets hostile and creates a lot of trouble and fights because of one student would not share a fan. Even fans does not beat the heat. No matter how many fans you put in one room it will be still hot. I have been one of those students who be dripping in sweat by the time the school is done. Some classrooms are cooler than the other. But for the most part James Campbell High School can be called the " Cinderblock Oven". It is really hard to concentrate in these classrooms.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

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

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Muse, Ali'itaeao Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES Students, or anyone really, can only focus for so long in temperatures of 80+ degrees before losing switching focus from school work, to keep cool. To sit in a classroom, most likely in the same spot, for eighty minutes would be easier if we could keep our body temperatures down. Being over-heated could cause fatigue, headaches, and nausea. If a student is trying to get through a day not feeling so well, the heat may cause it to be worse. With about 3,000 students attending Campbell, body heat is at a maximum, and space is at a minimum. With people who carry books and sweat in these poor conditions, it is dreadful. And for the teachers, who have to teach; dealing with noises from students, questions back to back, and/or illnesses, this can be painful. This also can have our educators out for a few days, which is not great. Air conditioning is not to make our school look fancy, it is to ensure that, our students have the tools and equal amount of success to be able to do their best each day. Thank you, Muse, Ali'itaeao

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Micah Donaldson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Michelle Kidani Chairperson Mike Gabbard Members of the Senate Committee on Education, Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment From: Micah Donaldson Subject: Support for SB258, RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS ` I am a senior at James Campbell High School, I no longer have a classes without AC, but I have experienced it the past 3 years at this school. Being in these classes feels like you're in an oven. Even with the larger classes we have with at least 30 students in it, the temperature goes up. Now that i'm in all AC classes, it is easier for me to focus and maintain my school work. I don't get as stressed as I used to, due to the heat. I see it in many students faces during class, I know their stressed because the work that piles up, and sitting down in a oven won't help it either way. I'm surprised no one has fainted yet, being dehydrated, plus this heat, seems like someone could be vulnerable to this. I am lucky to have these AC classes now, cause those past three years without it, I wasn't in a class, I was in a oven. At work i'm in a kitchen and it gets pretty hot in there, but its not as worst as sitting in that classroom. Having these air conditioners would help the schools and students to exceed standards. Not having the AC just makes it ten times harder. We try to focus but the heat distracts us from our focus. Its not just about us students to though, we have the teachers sitting in these classes all day. Its just not healthy for any of us. We try to work out with what we have now, but its just opening windows and doors. Which doesn't help much because what kind of air is breezing through these doors and windows? "HOT AIR!" It would help and i strongly agree to the support for SB258. MAHALO, Micah Donaldson.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cameron Maximo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Cameron Maximo Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES My name is Cameron Maximo and I am a student at James Campbell High School. As a student that care for the well being of everyone's health I strongly support HB759. I believe that schools need air conditioning for students to focus better in class. In an average classroom at James Campbell High School the temperature can reach up to 90 degrees sometimes even more. Such high temperatures can affect a student's behavior. "According to Psych Central, high levels of humidity which is usually accompanied by hot weather lowered scores on concentration while increasing sleepiness. A heat wave with high humidity can sometimes cause us to feel like we are lacking energy (Screenflex Room Dividers, 2015)." This is exactly how we, students, feel on a day-to-day basis during class. Classrooms with high temperatures can make students feel uneasy and tired. Imagine being in a room that can get as hot as a sauna and being forced to stay in there to do work. Sometimes because of the heat I feel the laziness and sleepiness throughout the day. I support this bill in favor of cooling systems in public school facilities so students, like me, will not have to experience such high temperatures while in class.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Darryl Vincent

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

My name is Darryl Vincent and I am a student at Campbell High School. There are currently only 40 classes with air conditioning and over 100 classes have no air conditioning. Campbell High School is the largest public school in the state of Hawaii and we have classes full of students. All of these classes are hot and we all suffer in these classes because we can't focus on our work. We are distracted by the sweltering heat and this prevents us from doing the best of our abilities. If we cannot achieve in our school system, we have a lower chance of a bright future because in today's society, we are taught that having an education can guarantee us a good future with a great job. If we cannot do well in our education system because of environmental problems, change is needed. I hope that my dreams will not be crushed because of an air conditioning problem that could have been solved. Please help us and pass this bill so we can actually improve our society by excelling in our education system.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacob Kyle Mariano	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takahashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Jacob Kyle Mariano Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES I am a student at James Campbell High School and past news reports stated that James Campbell High School will receive Air Conditioning in late 2014 but as you can see, there has been nothing done at my school. I question why they did not do anything but in actuality, something has to be done to take away the suffering of many students at school. As I see it in school, many people complain that the heat affects their learning but not focusing in class and not producing quality work. In the past, Campbell students rally at the State Capitol for cooler classrooms. You see them putting effort in the rally to push for air conditions and if you don't even consider their attempt to make their school a better place, there is something wrong. Ewa Beach is known to be a scorching area in Hawaii and students have been dealing with heat for a long period of time and they are tired of learning in such a sauna. Temperatures in Campbell classrooms have been over 90 degrees with a lot of students. With so many students, it gets worse for everyone. We really need Air Conditioning in our classrooms so students can feel happy about going to school, not worrying about the heat.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
prya oliveira	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Prya Oliveira Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES. Focusing in a hot class room isn't easy, but when that hot classroom is filled with 30 students and little fans and ventilation, that makes it harder. When the Queen Liliokulani building's AC broke down, the workers then felt our pain. They explained how they felt nauseous, dizzy, and they even left work early. As for us, we aren't allowed to leave school early, we have to sit in a packed classroom, sweating, in our uniforms that are thick and forced upon us, and we don't have a choice but to pay attention. If the state workers can't handle the heat then neither should we, it isn't fair. We were told that we would have a change soon, but we have seen no improvement once so ever. We were promised at least an alternative, which we did not receive. We are the biggest school in the state, with over 3000 kids, and the highest temperature, we are kids, not deserts waiting to get baked.

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Ruffa Gutierrez

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

My name is Ruffa Gutierrez and I am student at James Campbell High School. I strongly support SB759. This past year, our school has been trying to get air conditioning and we are still waiting for a response to push through with this issue. With high temperatures over 90 degrees in small rooms, students have been complaining with the heat. This is leading to students feeling drowsy, tired, and students skipping school. As a student, I believe that our school needs air conditioning now. For starters, there are over 3,000 students on our campus making Campbell the school with the most students in the state. Our rooms are already small and with a growing population of students, our school needs the air conditioning to make students feel at ease and so that they have a good classroom environment along with the great education Campbell already has. This will not only benefit the students, but the teachers and families as well. Although it costs a lot of money for air conditioning, our students and teachers from our school has found ways to reduce the cost given from the state. We Campbell students truly support this bill and also want to help other schools who need air conditioning the most.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharlene Insong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Sharlene Insong Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO AIR CONDITIONING IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILIITIES. My name is Sharlene Insong and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I strongly support HB759. As a student, I see the direct correlation between the environment and the ability to learn. Going to class after lunch becomes very difficult due to the heat rising in the middle of the day and the body hear of 35 students in one tiny classroom. The heat has become an issue and will continue to affect us until the problem is resolved. By putting air conditioning in public school facilities, you will help students be able to concentrate on learning instead of letting them think about how much they want to just jump in a pool of ice cold water. Pass this bill to help the future leaders of America. Do it for the kids that want to be politicians like you, that want to be suregeons and scientists. Do it for the education.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Valentine J. Doria	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Chairperson Roy Takumi Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno Members of the House Committee on Education From: Valentine J. Doria Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES My name is Valentine J. Doria and I am a student at James Campbell High School. As someone who is interested in advocating the welfare of my own and my peers' learning I strongly support HB759. I believe that the temperature in public schools can definitely influence our ability to learn. There are over 100 classrooms that don't have air conditioning in my school, James Campbell High School, in which the temperatures in these classrooms can reach over 90 degrees. If our school or any public school for that instance gets air conditioning I believe that it'll be easier for students to learn and focus in a classroom.

Ann Anusewicz
160 Keonekai Rd. #21-103
Kihei, HI 96753-7141

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

I am a teacher at Kihei Elementary, a Maui school with air conditioned classrooms. The negative effects of heat, vog, and traffic noise are abated in our learning environment. Students are better able to concentrate in our comfortable classrooms, and this positively impacts student learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Ann Anusewicz

Ann Keeler
367 Likeke Pl
Kapa'a, HI 96746-1362

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

I am Ann Keeler and I teach Third Grade at Wilcox Elementary School on the island of Kaua'i.

I would like you to think about your job for a minute. Imagine you are sitting in your office and the air conditioning fails. As the minutes go by you begin to feel warmer and warmer. You feel sleepy because today there are no trades and the air around you is stuffy and hot. You can't think and you certainly can't finish that proposal that is due tomorrow.

You decide to go home for the day so that you can get some work done from the comfort of your home office. You leave the office for the day and finish your proposal at home. You feel great with what you accomplished.

Now imagine you are a student in the same environment with the same heat.

You are trying to do your best on an important assignment, however, you cannot think and feel sleepy. Unfortunately since you are a student and not a representative, you cannot go home and must endure until the end of the school day. You develop a headache and still perseverer to get your best work done. You feel you could have done better if you had been able to think. You know your work has been of higher quality in the past. You are unhappy and bummed with the work you turned in.

Yes folks, the learning environment does impact student learning just as your office environment impacts the work you get done. Heat, Vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning and success rather than a luxury. If we truly want to develop the potential in each of our young citizens they must be able to think, process, learn, and create in a comfortable environment.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.

All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

A hui hou,

Ann Keeler
808-634683

Anne Cross
PO Box 125
Hakalau, HI 96710-0125

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Anne Cross.
I am a special education teacher at Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary school in Hilo.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

My students have a wide variety of learning disabilities as well as attention and focus issues. Having an air conditioned classroom would mean a lot for my students. Not only would it provide an optimal learning environment by controlling the temperature, but it would also increase air quality, decrease noise and external distractions like mowing, and little annoying gnats that irritate my students, and increase my ability to keep my students safe in the case of a lock down.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Anne CK Cross
8089375671

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brandon Lopez	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Air condition is needed

Brent Mukai
84-707 Kiana Place Apt 109B
Waianae, HI 96792-1727

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Brent Mukai.
I am a teacher at Waianae Intermediate.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning!

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify!

Sincerely,

Brent Mukai
8086977121

Brittney Bostaph
3385 Unahe St
Lihue, HI 96766-1277

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Brittney Bostaph
I am a teacher at Kapaa Elementary

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Not only is it hard for students to learn, not having AC requires me to keep windows open and fans on at all times. This makes completing tasks with paper and cutting impossible! Papers fly off students desks or they cut something get ready to glue it and can't find it because it's blown away. If I turn off the fans and close the windows the classroom heats up and gets uncomfortable.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify, and please remember ALL islands are hot and need AC NOT just Oahu!

Sincerely,

Brittney Bostaph

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

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

Comments: It is important that we have a complete study of the AC conditions in our schools. In this way, we will understand the exact costs and needs of our schools. Too long the AC conditions on our island schools have been unquotable. We have students in the most needy schools trying to study in deplorable conditions. Please pass this bill.

Christine Molina
1034 Front St. #211
Lahaina, HI 96761-2306

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

I am a teacher at a charter school in Hawaii

The learning environment impacts student learning. Not only is it impacting students, it is impacting teachers to deliver high quality lessons. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Christine Molina

Clayton Nishimoto
2126 Lauula St. Apt. 305
Honolulu, HI 96815-2324

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Clayton Nishimoto and I am a teacher at Roosevelt High School. I teach Special Education Algebra 1, Probability/Stats, and Algebra 2 in a non-air conditioned room on the second floor of the A building.

During the months of August, September, and October the past 4 years, it has been almost impossible keeping my students fully engaged when the temperature of the room is well over 85 degrees. During 80 minute class sessions, students often had to ask for water breaks and well as restroom breaks to go wash their faces with cold water to cool themselves down.

Some students became dizzy and had to be sent to the nurses office for aid of heat exhaustion.

Even during Open House during the evening after 7PM, many parents have complained to me that it was so warm in my room and asked me how I was able to teach as well as their kids learn anything under these conditions.

I have reported these conditions several times to the administration but no relief has been given. I even asked them if it is going to take a student or teacher suffering a bad case of heat exhaustion that will spur a lawsuit that will bring about an improvement in basic classroom environmental conditions.

In addition, having the door and windows open to help create hot air flow for some relief also invites in vog, insects, and distracting noise from outside sources such as lawn and garden maintenance, garbage trucks and other loud sources. All this contributes to a learning environment that is much less than ideal.

Please support HB759 and improve the basic learning environments for our students. All students deserve a chance to be successful in classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Clayton Nishimoto
808 381-8334

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education
From: Corey Rosenlee

Subject: Support for HB759, RELATING TO AIR CONDITIONING IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

My name is Corey Rosenlee and I am a teacher at Campbell High and I have been fighting for seven years to get ac in our classrooms and I urge you to pass SB258. First I want to share why we need ac in our classrooms. This year KITV came to Campbell and measured temperatures, once classroom as 100 degrees. This is not like a sauna where you go in for 15 minutes and then you leave, teachers and students have to endure those temperatures for hours. In these temperatures students are only focusing on the heat, and learning stops. This is not just a Campbell problem, teachers from across the state took temperature reading over 90 degrees.

So what is the solution? First we need to know how many classrooms in Hawaii don't have ac. The DOE has stated that there are 7000 classrooms in Hawaii that don't have ac and to put ac in these rooms would cost 1.8 billion, or \$250,000 per classroom. These numbers have made the problem seem impossible to solve and I believe both numbers are wrong and this is why we need this bill.

First, 7000 classrooms may or may not have ac, but I only way we will be able to determine this is to go to each school and count. Many teachers and schools because of the heat have already put ac in their classrooms. At Campbell approximately 1/3 of classrooms have ac, but you wouldn't know that unless you look. If we can take an accurate survey of ac in our classrooms, and if that number is lower it can and should bring down the cost.

Claiming that it would cost 1.8 billion is an unknown. Pohakea was one of the most recent schools to put ac in. They had to upgrade the electrical system, took out all the windows and replaced them, redid the roof and floor and put ac units that were larger than a refrigerator for each class. The DOE did this for \$115,000 per classroom. Even at that rate, accounting for 7000 classrooms it would bring down the cost by a billion. But I believe we can bring that down even further. One of the things that is essential for this survey is to find out how many schools can put in ac without the electrical upgrades. At Momilani elementary, their PTA was able to raise the money. Currently they have box acs, but they are putting in split acs and put plexiglass, installed by the navy, in front of the louvers. They are doing this for a few thousand dollars. How many other schools could do something similar. I don't know, the DOE doesn't know, but we need to know. Another essential component needed in this bill is to assess the current electrical

capacity of each school to determine whether they can put in ac without upgrading the electrical system.

The last hurdle is what to do with classrooms and schools that do have an antiquated electrical system. Two years ago when faced with the problem of how do we get ac in our classrooms, and do it for less than \$115,000 or \$250,000. The answer is photovoltaic off the grid air conditioning. The biggest concerns the DOE has is the cost of electrical upgrades and future electrical costs and that is why they take out the windows, roofs and ceilings. For pv ac you don't need that. People in Hawaii are living off the grid, and this would use renewable energy and bring down the cost to about \$15,000-20,000 per class. This technology may not work for every classroom, but in the last year we have tried, but have been unable to get the DOE to try this technology in just one classroom. It is frustrating because collectively we must solve this problem.

Last states all across the mainland closed their schools, when rooms got into the high 80's and 90's and did not have ac. In Hawaii we don't close schools, because we know if we had to close schools everytime it reached into the high 80's we would have to cancel school for half the year. If we are not going to close schools, and we don't want children to learn in boiling classrooms, then we must solve this problem and this bill is a first step.

Cynthia Luafalemana
PO Box 1504
Kaunakakai, HI 96748-1504

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Cynthia Luafalemana
I am a teacher at Kilohana Elementary School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

It makes me wonder why our leaders can sit in air conditioned offices and buildings while our children sit in heated rooms and the only thing that keeps them cool is an old fan system. So who sets the role modeling here? If the students can't have air conditioning then the entire State and County employees should not have them too. Think about it! Our students are the future leaders who will manage your retirement - treat them right!

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.

All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely, Cynthia Luafalemana

Cynthia Luafalemana
808-336-1616

David Berry
PO Box 31
Pahala, HI 96777-0031

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is David Berry
I am a teacher at Ka'u High School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. Teaching in Pahala is a difficult task when both teachers and students are exposed every day to the vog that sits on top of our school.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

David Berry

Doretta Masui
2788 Pacific Hts. Road
Honolulu, HI 96813-1022

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Doretta Masui
I am a teacher at Roosevelt High School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Doretta Masui

Doris Tanaka
1601 N. School Street
Honolulu, HI 96817-1834

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Doris Tanaka
I am a teacher at Kapalama Elementary School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Doris Tanaka
808-832-3290

Fran Bellinger
P.O. Box 6033
Kaneohe, HI 96744-9167

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is FRAN BELLINGER.
I am a teacher at KING INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

I have many students with asthma, upper respiratory ailments and other health conditions. Whenever they are exposed to extended periods of bad air quality, they become dreadfully sick and as a result, there is an increase in student daily absences which negatively impacts student learning.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify via email.

Sincerely,

Fran Bellinger

Greg Sagers
45-137 kokokahi place
Kaneohe, HI 96744-2462

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is
I am a teacher at

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Greg Sagers
808-235-7898

Hauolikeola Pakele
222 Desha Avenue
Hilo, HI 96720-4815

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Hauolikeola Pakele
I am a teacher at Ka Umeke Ka'eo Hawaiian Immersion Public Charter. School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Me ka mahalo ha'aha'a

Hauolikeola Pakele

Jaclyn Wills
84-1016 Hana st
Waianae, HI 96792-2252

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is
I am a teacher at Makaha.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Wills

Jami Higashi-Lee
3524 Kaaui Street
Honolulu, HI 96816-2714

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Jami Higashi-Lee
I am a teacher at Pearl City High School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

During the school year (with one or two months of exceptions), my students in classes after 10:00 am are so worn down by the heat in my classroom, that they have trouble focusing, therefore do not participate because they are overwhelmed by the heat. There is no wind because my classroom is situated opposite of the wind direction and have buildings that block both sides anyway. I also have only one door that barely lets any air in to be circulated. I currently have 7 fans in my room that only end up circulating hot air. At certain points in the afternoon, the learning environment becomes so affected by the temperature that I end up letting my students just relax instead of participate in the kinesthetic activities I usually love doing with all other periods.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jami R. Higashi-Lee
(808)454-5579

Janice Javar
P. O. Box 524
Naalehu, HI 96772-0524

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Janice Javar
I am a teacher at Ka'u High and Pahala Elementary School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Janice Javar

Jeffrey Palmer
PO Box 1689
Kaunakakai, HI 96748-1689

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Jeffrey Palmer
I am a teacher at Kilohana Elementary School

For the majority of the school year the classrooms in our school average over 85 degrees, we have digital weather stations for science instruction to confirm this data. During warmer periods the rooms can exceed 90 degrees. To expect teachers to work in this type of environment and to expect children to work at their highest level in this type of setting is absurd. We are only asking for the same consideration given to other professionals and to other children throughout the country. Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students. All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Palmer

Jo Thompson
po box 219
kilauea, HI 96754-0219

February 16, 2015

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Jo Thompson
I am a teacher at Kilauea Elementary School on the island of Kauai.

I would bet 1 million dollars that right now you are dressed like a professional, sitting at a nice desk in air conditioning. I too am a professional. With a Masters Degree in Curriculum Development and Administration and Nationally Certified (Twice), I am a bit more professional than your "Average teacher". I dress like a professional, however, it is getting harder to do so when my classroom is at 88-90 degrees.

Teachers start school in July. August and September are normally the hottest months. But as you may remember, it was very hot well into October. That is 4 months of 85 plus degrees, every single day I teach.

Although my Principal has done her best by adding additional fans, 3 that were posted high on the wall and only blow down hot air, it has not helped a bit. Those first 4 months of school finally took a toll on my health. I have documented this with my physician. Unfortunately, I can't seem to attach the pictures of the thermometer reading 90 degrees in our classroom that I share with my doctors office.

But, as an accomplished teacher, it's more about the kids than me. Their brains are still developing. Our bodies are 80 % water and our brains are too. They come in dehydrated and spent after recess. It's extremely difficult to teach students in this state. The 7 fans going at the same time to try and cool them down is so loud, I can't hear the students, and they can only hear me if I'm raising my voice, which is what I have to do all day, but don't want to.

I find it interesting to go to meetings on Oahu. All of those buildings are air conditioned. OCISS, all of the D.O.E. admin buildings, schools near the Nimitz and in Kahala of course. I thought the DOE was state run?

Time and time again the outer islands tend to not get treated the same as some of the Oahu schools? This is discriminatory in my view.

I have talked to my principal, OSHA, and the personal director on the island of Kauai. Nobody seems to have a plan. I tried to bring in an A.C. unit one of my parents brought in because they couldn't believe the heat. I was told I had to remove it.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students. All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jo Thompson

John Honjo
1726 Kamalii St.
Honolulu, HI 96817-2132

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is John Honjo
I am a teacher at

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. My classroom has A/C and it helps with the air quality as we are next to the freeway. It also filters the freeway noise out of the classroom. I do not have to yell to be heard and I can hear the students. Prior to A/C I had difficulty in both. The rest of AieaElementary needs A/C.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

John Honjo

Judy Cabanting
P.O. Box 487
Eleele, HI 96705-0487

February 17, 2015

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Judy Cabanting. I am a teacher at Elsie H. Wilcox Elementary School on the island of Kauai.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

I taught when schools opened after the Labor Day holiday with uncomfortable warm weather and students had to try and learn during warm and very humid days. With school starting in July, it has been extremely difficult for students to concentrate on learning due to the heat. July is not warm, but hot and at times stiflingly hot. Also, in September you know that by October or November, it gets cooler. However, instead of a couple of months, students are expected to work through the hot months of July, August, September and October before even thinking about cooler weather. That's a lot of learning time spent being focused on "how can I stay cool today?"

Students are allowed to bring water containers to school and have become more concerned about having sufficient water to drink throughout the day. They are sweaty, uncomfortable and antsy making them unable to focus on instruction nor to fully participate in learning activities.

Unfortunately, or perhaps, fortunately, technology has improved water containers and now with Hydro-flasks, students can have a cool source of water for the size of their water containers. These are containers which can be filled with water, and placed in the freezer to freeze the water.

One, then, has a container of ice which thaws throughout the day providing the user, most students, with a cool drink. However, sometimes the supply does not match the need for a drink and students begin to shake their containers to stimulate thawing or to break the ice into smaller pieces (so they can suck on them) during class resulting in a nosy distraction. This narrative is to inform you that learning has been impacted because an attempt to ease the situation is in fact creating another.

Besides allowing water containers in class, our administration and PTSA have provided each classroom with fans on different occasions, and solar roof fans have also been added to our buildings. I have received one fan each from the school and PTSA, both have been the stand up types and one has already been discarded because it stopped working. The fan, on high speed, is noisy and because students can't hear, fan speed needs to be moved from high to low speed which defeats its purpose. The solar roof fans when they are going at full speed are also very noisy.

Should the world climate continue on its present trend in global warming, and should the school year begin earlier in July, students will need more than water containers with frozen water, and numerous fans in the room to keep them focused on learning. Their learning environment needs to be such that they feel comfortable so they can focus on instruction, instead of being so focused on all the different ways to keep cool.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students. All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Judy Cabanting

Kathryn DeMoville
91-1207 Kaileolea Dr.
Ewa Beach, HI 96706-6259

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Kathryn DeMoville
I am a teacher at Keoneula Elementary. We have air conditioning at this school, and I can not even imagine trying to teach in a classroom without it. On the weekends, when I have been down in the classroom it has gone up to over 90 degrees. Our students can not learn in that heat. Even with windows and doors open, and fans on it is too hot to be able to focus on the requirements needed for learning. Behaviors also escalate in that environment. I have seen differences in student's behavior when overheated or when the students are coming in from outside on hot days.

There is air conditioning in your offices. Try to go without it for a day or week to see what you are expecting the students to do. Just as the work environment affects your ability to work, the learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning. They may not be able to vote yet, but part of your job is to work for them and their rights also.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Kathryn DeMoville
951-492-1819

Kayla Motoyama
94-1089 Pulelo St.
Waipahu, HI 96797-5050

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Kayla Motoyama.
I am a Special Education teacher at August Ahrens Elementary School.

The classroom environment directly impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and other external factors in today's world impact school buildings and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for all of our keiki.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Kayla Motoyama
8086772093

Kevin Tochiki
94-1181 hinaea st
waipahu, HI 96797-3719

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Kevin Tochiki
I am a teacher at Leilehua HS

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Kevin Tochiki
8083053000

Kim Holokai
Po box 3215
Wailuku, HI 96793-8215

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Kim Holokai
I am a teacher at Wailuku Elementary

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Kim Holokai

Koren Uyemura
46-270 A615 Kahuhipa Street
Kaneohe, HI 96744

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Koren Uyemura.
I am a teacher at James B. Castle High School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Most of my students spend more time complaining about how hot it is and uncomfortable rather than focusing on the instruction and learning. On top of that, our class size keeps getting bigger which adds to the problem.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Koren Uyemura
808-741-6421

Lara Mangieri
95-1217 Laipu Street
Mililani, HI 96789-5989

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Lara Mangieri
I am a teacher at Radford High School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Students and teachers both have a difficult time functioning when the temperature in the classroom reaches over 90 degrees with 36 students packed in a room. In addition, through out the year, outside noise and the wind blowing everyone's paper around the room is a constant distraction. How can we expect our students to do their very best when they are so hot they can barely function ,or continual outside noise such as mowers, leaf blowers, ambulance sirens, and other students constantly interrupt their thought processes?

How is it possible to have the state of Hawaii be competitive with other states on the mainland in education when some policies are 50 years behind at least? This is something that needs to be dealt with immediately if the state wants to improve the educational quality of its schools.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lara Mangieri

Laurel Galway
734 Kamoku St #3
Honolulu, HI 96826-4769

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is
I am a teacher at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Classrooms often reach 92+ degrees in the afternoon, which is certainly not a conducive learning environment. Students become sleepy and disengaged. Please, help us to be transformational.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Laurel Galway

Lawrence Denis III
PO Box 385847
Waikoloa, HI 96738-0847

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Lawrence Denis.

I am a teacher at Waikoloa School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Denis III

Leslie Farthing
PO box 532538
Kihei, HI 96753-2538

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Leslie Farthing
I am a teacher at Lahaina intermediate on Maui.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

I watch my students come into the classroom, red faced and lethargic. They argue over fans and spend the afternoon battling heat exhaustion. The physical conditions in my classroom-heat, vog, dust, mosquitoes and wasps, definitely interfere with and impede the learning in my classroom.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Leslie Farthing
8084190722

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lydia beard	James Campbell high school	Support	No

Lynette Low
3237 Hinano St.
Honolulu, HI 96815-4360

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Lynette Low
I am a teacher at Kaimuki High School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lynette Low
808-733-4900

Lynn Otaguro
150 Halemaumau St.
Honolulu, HI 96821-2054

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Lynn Otaguro and I am a teacher at Lincoln School.

I am writing in support of HB 759 to provide our public school students with an appropriate learning environment. As we all know, Hawaii can be very hot, humid, and subject to conditions such as vog which can make it impossible to breathe. Today, we expect a lot out of our students. They deserve a learning environment that allows them to concentrate. Please support making the needed changes to our classrooms to give every child a safe and inviting classroom that is conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lynn Otaguro
8082280684

Lynne Marie Fukuda
po box193
Pahala, HI 96777-0193

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Lynne Marie Fukuda
I am a teacher at Pahala Elementary

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lynne Marie Fukuda
8082855215

Malia Sakaki
95-658 Maiaku Street
Mililani, HI 96789-2812

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Malia Sakaki
I am a teacher at Leihoku Elementary School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. There is a very noticeable difference in student attentiveness and motivation when my classroom gets too hot or muggy. Being out on the Waianae Coast, that means my students are not at their optimum for many days of the year. Not only does heat impact student learning, but many children have asthma and miss weeks of school at a time because of it. Add in the external factors such as grass cutting, or maintenance work during instructional time and it makes for an environment that isn't the best for learning. When visiting schools who have AC units, I have noticed students are, in general, calmer and more focused on learning, rather than how uncomfortable they may feel.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Malia Sakaki
8082265733

Megan Landes
1667 S Kihei Rd Unit D
Kihei, HI 96753-8000

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Mrs. Megan Landes
I am a teacher at Princess Nahi'ena'ena Elementary in Lahaina, HI

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Megan Landes
8082765816

Melanie Chan
PO Box 330908
Kahului, HI 96733-0908

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Melanie Chan and I live in Maui County. I am a teacher at the fourth largest middle school in the state, Maui Waena Intermediate, servicing 1,100+ youth in Kahului, central Maui. When school begins in August, it is quite uncomfortable for our students because some of our classrooms do not have any type of cooling system. In fact, in some of our classrooms, there are not even ceiling fans--we rely on the trade winds to cool our students and our classrooms. Add thirty students and computers, it's simply uncomfortable and many students find it very hard to concentrate.

The learning environment deeply impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I also would like to invite you to come to Maui Waena in August, September, and October to shadow our students for a day if that will help determine a positive outcome that will benefit our keiki.

Sincerely,

Melanie Chan

Merlyn Daliva-Nagata
529 Waikala St.
Kahului, HI 96732-1723

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Merlyn Daliva-Nagata

I am a teacher at Lihikai Elementary School, Kahului, Maui. I am also an asthmatic and at times, the heat and vog make it difficult for me to breathe, thus impacting my teaching. Sometimes I need to take inhaled medication during lessons, and give myself a nebulizer treatment during my lunch break. Having air conditioning will definitely help my students and myself. I enjoy teaching at Lihikai School, so please don't suggest that I can transfer to Pomaikai or Pu'u Kukui, our two schools in the Kahului/Wailuku area that have air conditioning in their classrooms.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Merlyn Daliva-Nagata
8088779055

Mia Beatty
67-020 Waialua beach re
Waialua, HI 96791

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Mia Beatty
I am a teacher at Waialua Elementary

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mia Beatty

HB759

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Landes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I ask you to support HB 759. As a public school teacher in Lahaina, Maui, my classroom regularly hits 88 degrees by lunchtime. And in August, September, and October, my students and I are often trying our best to be productive in a classroom with temperatures of 91 degrees or more. These are abusive conditions we are subjecting our keiki to, and they are conditions we do not require the DOE leadership to endure. We need to end these unfair practices and support conditions that will be conducive to real learning for all of our children. Please help our schools!

Mindy Westenhaver
3454 Maluhia St.
Honolulu, HI 96816-2732

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Mindy Westenhaver.
I am a teacher at Kaimuki Higj School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mindy Westenhaver
8082285526

Natalie Gaspar
47-543 Alawiki Street
Kaneohe, HI 96744-4684

February 16, 2015
House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Natalie Gaspar.
I am a first grade teacher at Mokapu Elementary School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

When it's hot, especially after lunch, my 7 year old students get lethargic. But it's the time when we teach math, an essential subject, so we push on! I'm in a new building, so we have ceiling fans, but the rest of the school (900+ students in 7 buildings and portables) don't. And if we're hot, they're hotter!

The heat is not the only problem that cooling systems will help. It will also help with noise. We always open all windows and keep our doors open to stay cool. Our building is by a kindergarten building. At the beginning of the year, they always have students who cry a lot. My students will try to look out the window to see who's crying. They'll ask me if the child is okay. It's distracting their learning. Another noise that's distracting is the lawn mowers that come once every 2 weeks or so. Sometimes they do the front and the back of my classroom at the same time. The students cannot hear me and have difficulties concentrating. When people, especially students, pass by our class they're noisy and the students look to see who it is.

My daughters go to Benjamin Parker Elementary School with 300+ students.
One of my daughters is in 6th grade. She started off the year with one ceiling fan. Her teacher, a probationary teacher, bought 2 floor fans with her own money.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Natalie Gaspar
808-286-6830

Nathanial Mickelson
992 South Kihei Rd. Apt B102
Kihei, HI 96753-9119

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Nathanial L. Mickelson
I am a AP Chemistry teacher at Maui High School in Kahului, HI.

Especially in my laboratory classroom where I regularly have to close all the jalousies so that our bunsen burners don't blow out or cause a fire!

We also have to close up the room whenever we want good measurements from our scales. It gets ridiculously hot in there! I am a younger teacher now, but I don't think I could handle the heat in my older age. My students often look like they just took a shower from being so sweaty!!

Body odor is a regular occurrence for all of us. I've never been one to complain about not having AC because I always thought it was a pipe dream.

However, I can definitely take the time to send a message.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Especially now with the long

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Nathanial L. Mickelson
808 250-4207

Nathon Rodrigues
556 Waianuenue Avenue
Hilo, HI 96720-2522

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Nathon Rodrigues
I am a teacher at Hilo High School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. Many classrooms on our campus regularly heat up to over 90 degrees, making learning and concentration an extreme challenge as well as a safety concern.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Nathon Rodrigues

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicholas Benevides	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: It's to hot in James Campbell high school. It's hard for students to concentrate when the class is really hot. We can't compete with other schools if we don't have air conditioning.

Patricia Niibu
POB 630547
Lana'i City,, HI 96763-0547

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Patricia Niibu
I am a teacher at Lana'i High and Elementary School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Patricia Niibu

Rayna Kinoshita
3009 Ala Makahala Place #610
Honolulu, HI 96818-7604

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Rayna Kinoshita.

I am a teacher at Ewa Elementary School where the heat can have such a negative impact on both teaching and learning - especially from June-September. This past school year, I can recall several days where my tops were literally soaked in sweat while I was teaching. With my own money, I purchased 3 additional fans while my school provided me with another 2. That's 5 fans that were very much needed, but did very little to make much of a difference in cooling the classroom. I feel that this heat problem is getting worse and I am kindly asking you to help be a part of the solution.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. I would like to prove my point by asking you to shut off the air-conditioning in your office during the months of June, July, August, and September and see if the temperature can impact your focus, concentration, learning, and work productivity.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Rayna Kinoshita

Robin Lopes
1193 Mokapu Road
Kailua, HI 96734-5010

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Robin Lopes. I am a teacher at Mokapu Elementary School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

In creating this bill, please also consider the following:

You cannot simply add AC units to windows of classrooms. Most DOE schools have wooden louvers. When adding a window unit, it is necessary to close all windows and doors in order for the AC to work properly. This makes the classroom dark, claustrophobic and deprives students of sunlight. If you want to add AC to the classrooms, then the windows must be refitted with airtight glass windows that allow sunshine into the classroom. There must also be an efficient filtering system installed to circulate outdoor air into the room. While it is beneficial to eliminate pollutants from the air, it is also unhealthy to have students breathe recirculated air all day. I have seen occupants of classrooms with AC units have a much higher incidence of illnesses due to airborne viruses and bacteria that can be spread by just one person. The filters of the units must also be regularly maintained and cleaned to ensure that they are serving the intended purpose of keeping pollutants out of the classroom.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Robin Lopes

Romeo Eleno
PO Box 630266
Lanai City, HI 96763-0266

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Romeo Eleno
I am a teacher at Lanai High & Elementary School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Romeo Eleno
8082232482

Saofai Lowe
92711 Palailai St.
Kapolei, HI 96707-1114

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Saofai Pao Lowe. I am a teacher at Waianae High School.

I teach in a portable that can get up to 95 degrees hot. It is very very uncomfortable. The students pay more attention to fanning themselves than to learning. They complain so much about the heat and we get headaches because it is just way too hot. There is only 1 working fan which makes loud noises and is very distracting too. There is one old AC that works, but does not cool the classroom due to no insulation in the portable. The AC collects mold, dust, and mildew which makes us sick; even when it is cleaned out, it still breathes illnesses through its vents. This is a workplace and learning place hazard. Therefore, we don't turn on the AC.

Some days, the lawn mowers and weed whackers make so much noise that we just stop our lesson all together because none of us can hear anything. We can close the doors and windows, but the heat will be unbearable. We have requested for these contractors to come either early morning or after school, but we have been told contractors set the hours and therefore there is nothing we can do about it. Really? Is it that hard to change the schedule to cut the grass at 3pm? I think not. I know your offices are nice and air conditioned; the same thing can be merited to tax payers and their children who have voted you in. We are not asking for luxury. We are simply asking to improve our facility for learning just as you enjoy a comfortable place for work. The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Saofai Pao Lowe

Shelleen Lindberg
94-719 Meheula Parkway #1B
Mililani, HI 96789-2190

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Shelleen Lindberg
I am a teacher at Solomon Elementary School on Schofield Barracks

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Students in my classroom often complain of headaches and stomach aches. This makes it so they can't focus and learn our standards. The health room can't do anything for them and they can't be sent home daily. It is essential that their needs are taken care of so that they are able to learn and be a productive member of society.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Shelleen Lindberg
8085512043

Sheryl Ogawa
HC2 Box 6056 (15-1853 Maia Street)
Keaau, HI 96749-9300

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Shery Ogawa in the lava zone! I live north of the flow and teach south of the flow. Pahoa is a great school! I am a teacher at Pahoa High & Intermediate School. We have hepa filters in our classrooms, but it can be noisy. It also produces heat build up with the windows all closed.

What we also need are Roombas - robotic vacuum cleaners. We are having difficulties finding room cleaners. A roomba can vacuum a classroom on a daily basis and keep particles and dust out of the air.. Many Pahoa students are asthmatic too.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Ogawa
8089827321

Sue Radell
46-217 Ahui Nani Place
Kaneohe, HI 96744-4052

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Sue Radell
I am a teacher at Kalaheo High

Genetically Modified Mosquitoes In Florida?

After 70 million genetically modified mosquitoes were released in several countries to help combat a mosquito problem, Florida is considering releasing them in the Florida Keys pending FDA approval. Matt Sampson has the details on why it's got some opposing views. The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Thank you for your support of AC

Sue Radell
8082587837

Tammy Kuwahara
94 Moolu circle
Wailuku, HI 96793-3320

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Tammy Kuwahara.
I am a teacher at Waihee Elementary School on Maui.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Tammy

Tammy Threet
200 Alanuiliili Pl
Kula, HI 96790-8003

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Tammy Threet.
I am a teacher at Kihei Charter School on the island of Maui.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, cane smoke, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students, including CHARTER SCHOOL students in Hawaii. All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning. Our school is housed in a strip mall with poor to low air quality. We have no windows or natural light in our school which creates classrooms that are 80 degrees and higher. One classroom is peaking at 89 degrees over the past couple weeks.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Tammy Threet
808-250-3046

Tiffany Kalahiki
45-708 Kamehameha Hwy
Kaneohe, HI 96744-2947

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Tiffany Kalahiki
I am a teacher at Koko Head ES

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Kalahiki
236-2235

Tim Anthony
405B Kalama Street
KAILUA, HI 96734-2076

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is
I am a teacher at Kalakaua Middle School.

Heat in the classroom is simple. My classroom could be a place where students want to go for relief from the heat. Instead, it is a place they want to escape.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Tim Anthony
808-489-8832

Trina Travis
165-G Ohai St.
Wahiawa, HI 96786-1779

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Trina Kahawai-Travis.
I am a teacher at Nuuanu Elementary.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Trina Travis

Valerie Harmon
821 Kalihi St.
Honolulu, HI 96819-4067

February 15, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is

I am a teacher at Title 1 school,

Kalakaua Middle School. The learning environment impacts student learning.

Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. Students are choking, sick, hot and so are the teachers. It is hard to teach in a classroom that is 90 degrees. My throat and physical wellness is also affected, not just my students, which can affect my students ability to learn. Please make efforts to end the wasted billions of dollars spent on testing children with ridiculous expectations (does the government really believe all teachers will be able to take their middle school students from a lower elementary level of comprehension to grade level in the one year they see these students? Do parents and families have any responsibility for their children? Spend the money on what the schools need, a decent working environment. Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students. All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Valerie Harmon

Victoria Gonder
181 Hui Rd F #19
Lahaina, HI 96761-9191

February 16, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Victoria Gonder
I am a teacher at Lahainaluna High School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Victoria Gonder
817_899_1943

Yahna Kawa'a
1324 Humuula Street
Kailua, HI 96734-3705

February 16, 2015

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Yahna Kawa'a. I am a proud special education teacher at Maunawili Elementary. This bill is of particular interest to me because of my experience as a student teacher several years ago. The school where I completed my field credit was located near the beach and while the campus was clean and neat, there weren't many trees, except a few in the parking lot and a large monkey pod on the playground. It was so hot in the classroom that my clothing was often soaked with sweat by the end of the day. I complained constantly to my friends and family about the the heat, and while they agreed with me, they soon were fed up with my bellyaching. One day, I brought in a thermometer to measure the temperature in the room. I don't recall the exact number, but it was definitely over 80 degrees, not including humidity. The school had no cooling system. I was so glad when I was hired to teach in Kaneohe where monkey pod trees stood majestically on the school's campus. It was not only beautiful but cooler too.

Maunawili does not have a cooling system, except for the library and computer rooms. Our classroom is located at the end of the campus and we usually get a good breeze. I am not sure about the classrooms sandwiched in between though. Additionally, our shower trees provide shade over the lower playground. We have a beautiful campus thanks to our hardworking, friendly and dedicated custodial staff who keep the plants, shrubs and general "greenery" in top shape (likely contributing to lower blood pressure and temperatures too). I wonder whether weather or seasonal wind patterns etc. might be considered when designing a school. Of course, that's another issue.

This bill is important and timely. We live close to the equator, making the sun's heat that much more intense. Additionally, children and teachers will return to the classroom in July this year. That's a hot month!! Why can't we start in September?

The classroom environment has an impact on a student's ability to focus, concentrate and learn. An overly crowded, visually cluttered or hot classroom is not only uncomfortable and distracting, but it presents a possible safety issue. If the learning environment is uncomfortable, it puts a terrible burden on students and teachers. An excessively hot classroom is not an environment that supports learning; it's a sauna.

Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Yahna Kawa'a

Hugo Valenzuela Brehme
1244 Kina Street
Kailua, HI 96734-3721

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Hugo Valenzuela Brehme and I teach Spanish at Kailua High. I have been working at this school since 2002 and never had an air conditioned classroom.

At times, it is unbearable to teach and learn because my classroom reaches the high 90 degrees. In addition to the high temperature, KHS does not provide nor allocate any money to purchase fans. Consequently, I need to change shirts two to three times in a seven-hour shift. My 150 students complain daily about how hot it is in the classroom. They also complain about the lack of fans. This school year I splurged, out of my own pocket, over a hundred dollars for a shop fan.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Hugo Valenzuela Brehme
(808) 265-3188

Lisa Kiakona
122 Kailuana Pl
Kailua, HI 96734-1662

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

I am a teacher at Koko Head Elementary in Hawaii Kai where the temperature in my classroom reaches 85°F by 8:00am in half of the months of the school year. Consider what that escalates to as the day wears on and when students come in from recess, PE, and other outdoor activities. Ceiling fans, wall fans, and floor fans simply circulate hot air and dust/dirt that fills our classrooms due to open windows and doors.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Hawai'i's natural environmental factors make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. It is very hard to effectively teach and learn in the existing classroom environment -- both due to temperature and excessive dust/dirt.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kiakona
8089273849

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jay Vincent Gajonera	Individual	Support	No

Comments: public school needs ac because you cant spell education without ac.

Lori Hamel
3161 Woodlawn Drive
Honolulu, HI 96822-1466

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Lori Hamel
I am a teacher at Roosevelt High School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lori Hamel
808 9881767

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
aryana cabudol	Individual	Support	No

Comments: everyday I dread going to school because I know during the day it's always gets hot, and I can't even think straight with the heat. I would love to have AC at james Campbell high school

Carrie Yamamoto
2431 Pauoa Road #G
Honolulu, HI 96813-1377

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Carrie Yamamoto
I am a teacher at Roosevelt High School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning. Imagine, businesses and political leaders having to conduct business in 90 degree offices!

We could also be pro-active and support going GREEN, by putting PV, solar, wind energy and other cost-cutting measures for the long-run. At the start it may be expensive to the State and Taxpayers, but in the long-run, it would benefit the State and the Taxpayers!

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Carrie Yamamoto
8082218420

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christine carlos	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Sometimes it's difficult to concentrate in class with a hot temperature. The hot temperature not only effects the community but us students who are striving our best to earn our education. With Air condition I do believe that is students has a high chance of earning all those A's.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clynt TN. Araki	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am unable to learn because it is so hot that I become to sleepy

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danielle Alexis Dequito	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Last year there was a classroom in JCHS that was voted the hottest classroom in the school. It was said that this classroom could possibly reach to 90-100 degrees. I was crazy to think that this was actually possible in my very own school. But it's even crazier to know that the classroom voted for the hottest on campus was where one of my classss are this year. Just recently, Mr. Wooten himself told us that in about a month or two, we should be preparing for the hot weather. And that is definitely something I'm not looking forward to. Students here don't ask for AC because it gets really hot. We ask for AC because it makes our learning environment better for us. Only someone who has spent their time in one of our hottest classroom will understand how bad it gets when the weather gets too hot. Thanks for taking your time to understand what students at JCHS go through on a daily basis. All we ask is for you to here us out.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Devin Pagdilao	Individual	Support	No

Comments: When I am in class I do not even focus on the work given, I am just focusing on how hot it is and trying to fan myself. Why do you have us kids at campbell suffer with a poor learning environment, while kids in Kailua get a great learning environments.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Holden Tibayan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The heat in Ewa beach makes learning in the classrooms undesired.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Iokapeta Moliga	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: AC is needed in James Campbell High School. becaus its too hot here in Ewa Beach !

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Junhee Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Let us see if DOE officers can stay in their office without AC in the summer.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kacie-Tyler	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In class it gets really hot because of the amount of people in one class and we have no AC. I believe we should be intitled to have ac hust like anyother school. We shouldnt be discriminated because of where we come from we should be treated as equals

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamekona Reiny-Aloy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please help us better our education. It is very hot at James Campbell High school and it is difficult to focus in class. We are willing to run 100 miles for AC. That's how bad we need it. Please give us AC to help us compete and pursue our dreams.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Miguel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I do want to have AC in Campbell. We hate having to work in the heat of the sun. School would be better if we can focus on our work than focusing on being cooler in this hot environment. When we are in a cool environment we can focus more and have more intellectual conversation about our work. Although in the heat, we become more savage and everything and everyone just gets irritating. Uniforms start to get irritating because we don't want to wear clothes that makes us perspire so we wear less clothing. The result of that act is admins gives us consequences that will take time out of our learning and take money out of our parents pockets. It is going to get hotter and hotter and students will not learn and rebel against the admins. Especially since Ewa is so hot. Please give AC to Campbell, we hate the heat.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maygan Navarrete	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is hard to focus in class and complete school work when all you are thinking about is how hot it is and how much many of us just want to walk out of class to get a cool sip of water.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nainoa Soto Thompson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Without AC it gets hot. When it gets hot we lose focus on learning. When we lose focus we don't do our work. Then we eventually skip class because it is just so hot. Our grades fall and our education is tarnished. All these things happen because we have No AC

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Burke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a strong believer that it's only fair if schools like James Campbell High School get air condition, for the sake of students education. Heat doesn't help us focus or get work done, it makes us inattentive and weary. My personal experience with this heat started in 10th grade in my English class. I could not focus whatsoever, therefore my grade dropped a whole letter grade because I could not get any work done. Ever since then, there has been classes that were hotter than that class. My grades are hard to maintain, and I believe students deserve to have fairness to education without heat getting in the way.

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Iwasaki-Kelai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Schools in wealthier areas have AC and tend to succeed more than the schools in poorer areas. It is more difficult to learn in a hot environment than a cool classroom. This gives the wealthier schools' students an advantage to higher education, and leaves economically disadvantaged students with poor education and a smaller chance to attend good colleges.

Justine Eshleman
1120 Nehoa Street
Honolulu, HI 96822-2566

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Justine Eshleman, and I am a teacher at Roosevelt High School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Justine A. Eshleman

Ryan Hironaka
47-280 Waihee Rd
Kaneohe, HI 96744-4947

February 17, 2015

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Ryan Hironaka

I am a teacher at Kahalu'u Elementary School

Standardized tests have been supersized into public education to a point where it is no longer diagnostic in nature, but has instead become a malignant growth that is in fact doing harm to students, schools and ultimately our communities.

What once was a fairly straightforward process that may have taken a day or two to complete, has now become an extravaganza that requires staffing positions dedicated to the administration of the tests, weeks of loss learning time, and an increasingly rigid adherence to a curriculum that has become, itself, standardized.

As resources have become scarce for the arts, physical education and other student learning opportunities that are 21st Century staples, more money is being directed to external providers, textbook firms and testing companies. In many cases, these three entities are either connected to or parts of one another and/or larger for-profit companies.

HB1406 lays out, in very meticulous order, the way standardized tests should be administered. From the process, to the purpose, it will be clear, should this legislation become law, that testing should be returned to its rightful place in our school system. Our standardized tests could once again be used to inform our curriculum, not drive it. Our standardized tests could, once again, help us identify the best way to help our students succeed as the individuals they are rather than force them to become part of a standardized mass.

In support of success for all Hawai i s children, Please SUPPORT HB1406.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Ryan Hironaka
808-239-3100

Natasha Taketa
47-423 Hoopala St
Kaneohe, HI 96744-4843

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Natasha Taketa.
I am a teacher at McKinley High School and I am the choral director.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. I myself have asthma and I am thankful to have an air conditioned room to work in. There was however one day in January where the vog was extremely bad. If it weren't for my air controller room I would not be able to work that day. Many of my students who also have asthma appreciate having air condition on those particular days.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Natasha Taketa

Cynthia Van Kleef
2219 S Kihei Rd. , B-314
Kihei, HI 96753-7211

February 17, 2015

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Cynthia Van Kleef. I am a teacher at Lao Intermediate School on Maui.

Here are the temperatures in my room throughout the year. I have a thermometer in my room.

August, September, October, November
90 degrees with 80% + humidity

December, January, February
80 to 85 degrees with 80% + humidity

March, April, May
80 to 85 degrees with 80% + humidity

After 11 a.m. teaching and learning gets difficult because our bodies are so hot we can barely function let alone learn anything in-depth. Day after day we end our days, teachers and students looking like we just got out of a sauna.

I challenge all the politicians to come into our classrooms and do what we do in the temperatures we do it in and see how they feel after a week.

They won't make it through the week, guaranteed.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students. All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Van Kleef

Dayna Kaneshiro
1120 Nehoa Street
Honolulu, HI 96822-2566

February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Dayna Kaneshiro
I am a counselor at Roosevelt High School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Dayna Kaneshiro
(808) 531-9472

Karen Horwitz
1240 Ala Kapuna Street # 112
Honolulu, HI 96819-4608

February 18, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Karen Horwitz
I am a teacher at Kahuku High & Intermediate School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Karen Horwitz
808-754-9173

Krista Tatum
1060 Eha Street #105
Wailuku, HI 96793-2085

February 18, 2015

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Krista Tatum. I am a teacher at Puu Kukui Elementary School on Maui.

Last school year I transferred from Pukalani Elementary school, which does not have air conditioning, to the brand new Puu Kukui Elementary School with air conditioning. So I can tell you first hand what a difference air conditioning makes in both student learning and teacher effectiveness. On those scorching hot afternoons of Aug., Sept., Oct., and May up in Pukalani, the time after lunch was pretty much useless. The kids would return from lunch and recess sweating bullets and practically falling asleep. I always tried to do activities with active engagement in the afternoons to keep the students involved in their learning, but it was very difficult to get them actively engaged because they didn't even want to leave their seats to move about the room nor did they want to be close to others to complete partner or group work because it was just too hot.

It was almost as if their brains were melting inside their heads because they had difficulty completing even routine tasks. As you can imagine from this description, the heat severely limited my ability to teach effectively.

The summer wasn't the only time air conditioning would've increased student learning. On windy days, dust and debris (sometimes even ash from cane burning) would blow into our windows causing eye and respiratory irritation and a dirty learning environment. Add rain to the equation and we would have to close the windows and suffer through learning in a humid, stuffy classroom or risk have our teaching and learning materials damaged.

Now that I am teaching in a school with air-conditioning, the difference in student learning, particularly in the afternoon, is like night and day.

We are able to continue teaching high level Common Core lessons effectively throughout the afternoon and students remain fully engaged.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students. All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Krista Tatum
6084459433

Lianne Oshiro
410 South Hina Ave
Kahului, HI 96732-2717

February 18, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Lianne Oshiro.
I am a teacher at Kahului Elementary School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. I have personally purchased at least 4 fans now for my classroom. Even with 3 fans running in the class, my students, as well as myself, are still negatively affected by the heat.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lianne
264-2795

Lori Tsukamoto
p.o. box 894333
Mililani, HI 96789-8323

February 18, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Lori Tsukamoto.
I am a teacher at Mililani High School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lori Tsukamoto

Robert Lozano
68-1715 MAKUAKANE STREET
WAIKOLOA, HI 96738-5334

February 18, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Robert Lozano.
I am a teacher at Waikoloa Elementary & Middle School.

My students' classroom reaches into the 80s and even 90s on a regular basis in Waikoloa. The winds in Waikoloa, also known jokingly as "Waikoblowa", are an added nuisance that along with the intense heat in our high desert climate, interfere with learning. The ceiling fans in our classroom are both inadequate as well as in disrepair. DAGS ability to correct the problem is severely limited. To add insult to injury, our classroom windows do not open without Herculean strength. When they are serviced by DAGS, the parts they bring are inadequate for the job. I recently had two windows serviced, that although they open more easily, now slide halfway closed because of incorrect parts. Screens on the windows are tattered and provide ample space for mosquitoes to enter the room, further interfering with learning. Due to construction on our campus, doors and windows have had to be closed to prevent excessive noise and smells from solvents, Diesel engine generators, and the like from making keiki nauseous. Temporary air conditioning was promised initially for the construction period, but reneged upon when recent budget cuts and electricity quotas were put into place earlier this year. Please consider funding our schools with air conditioning so that we can return to the business of educating our keiki in the least restrictive environment.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Robert Lozano
808-883-1941

HB759

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 18, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ruston Utu	Individual	Support	No

Tina Jentilet
1556 Piikoi St., #806
Honolulu, HI 96822-4039

February 18, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Tina M. Jentilet
I am a teacher at Theodore Roosevelt High School.

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury. My classroom is hotter than it is outside causing many of my students to sleep.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Tina M. Jentilet
808-5660740

Travis Armstrong
1705 9th Ave A
Honolulu, HI 96816-2892

February 18, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is Travis Armstrong
I am a teacher at Highlands Intermediate School

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Travis Armstrong
8087819672

Trisha Shipman-Lameier
6209 Kawaihae Pl
Honolulu, HI 96825-1934

February 18, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is
I am a teacher at

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Trisha Shipman-Lameier

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LATE



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 02/18/2015
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0759, HD1 RELATING TO COOLING SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

Purpose of Bill: Requires DOE and DAGS, in consultation with the State Energy Office of DBEDT and Hawaii Natural Energy Institute of UH, to develop a cooling master strategy and comprehensive retrofitting study for public schools and to report findings to the Legislature. Authorizes general obligation bonds and appropriates funds for efficient classroom-cooling demonstration projects. (HB759 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (DOE) appreciates the intent of this bill and the changes that the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee provided. However, because the DOE has already begun a number of initiatives to address the issue of cooling in our classrooms, we believe that this bill is not necessary at this time. Among the efforts the DOE currently has underway a heat abatement study of Campbell High School. This effort was a result of a collaboration with the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) in which the consultant team looked at a variety of different situations and how best to achieve comfortable temperatures inside the classrooms. The data gathering and analysis phases of this study have been completed and final results are expected in the next thirty days. Once these results are analyzed, an implementation plan and strategy can be developed for all schools statewide and priorities can be determined.

LATE

Linnea Sherrard
4958 Kilauea Ave. # 2
Honolulu, HI 96816-5788

February 18, 2015

House Committee on Education
HI

Dear House Committee on Education:

Aloha,

My name is
I am a teacher at

The learning environment impacts student learning. Heat, vog, and the increase of other external factors in today's world impact the classroom and make air cooling and climate control systems a necessity for student learning rather than a luxury.

Please support HB759 and optimal learning environments for our students.
All students deserve safe and inviting classrooms that are conducive to learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Linnea Sherrard
8082950392



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
February 18, 2015

LATE

LATE

H.B. 759 H.D. 1 – RELATING TO COOLING
SYSTEMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the intent of H.B. 759 H.D. 1 which requires the DOE and DAGS to develop a cooling master strategy and comprehensive retrofitting study for public schools.

As provided in this measure, the capacity, infrastructure, and funding needs of the DOE are extremely important factors as the state moves to provide public school students with improved learning experiences. Presently, schools face serious challenges attempting to balance available funding with numerous programmatic and facility needs. Therefore, it is critical that language be included to this measure that secures adequate funding for installation as well as the cost for on-going maintenance of these systems. A healthy and safe classroom environment is an important aspect as school staff endeavor to provide our youth with the best education possible and opportunities for their success in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding H.B. 759 H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director