

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

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

**Date:** 02/18/2015  
**Time:** 01:17 PM  
**Location:** 229  
**Committee:** Senate Education  
Senate Agriculture

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 1303 RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates funds for new positions within the department of education, agribusiness development corporation, and college of tropical agriculture and human resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports SB 1303 in appropriating funds for new positions within the Department, Agribusiness Development Corporation, and College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

The purpose of program is to build educational pathways at the Leilehua Complex schools to align with business industry needs in agriculture, manufacturing, healthcare, safety and security. The program addresses the educational piece of The Whitmore Project, a detailed plan to revitalize our local agindustry by bringing farmers and the state together to increase local food production, create jobs, engage in partnerships, and to provide affordable housing.

The proposed measure provides the Department with the necessary personnel to develop a K-12 STEM curriculum that is aligned to Career Technical Education pathways, provide the training to its administrators and teachers, and coordinate projects across state agencies and businesses.

The Department recognizes the need to tailor its educational programming to the resources readily available in the community that prepares our students to be college, career, and community ready.

Further, the Department would like to request that the implementation of SB 1303 would not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

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



LATE

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
CENTRAL OAHU DISTRICT OFFICE  
1122 MAPUNAPUNA STREET, SUITE 200  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

**Date:** 02/18/2015

**Time:** 01:17 PM

**Location:** 229

**Committee:** Senate Education, Agriculture

**Complex Area:** Central

**Person Testifying:** Dr. John Brummel, Complex Area Superintendent

**Title of Bill:** SB 1303 RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates funds for new positions within the department of education, agribusiness development corporation, and college of tropical agriculture and human resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

**Position:**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 1303. The Leilehua Complex schools have been focused on improving student achievement and access to high quality Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics opportunities for the past six years. This focus area was aided by Department of Defense grants in Science and Mathematics and provided resource teachers and funding to support curriculum, instruction, and assessments. The Leilehua Complex held Saturday Science Events for families, a Central District 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Fair, and a Leilehua Complex Robotics Competition using Lego and Vex robots. Now that the grants are concluding, we are finding ways to keep the learning moving forward by offering Sea Perch underwater robotics as an option in collaboration with community partners.

The creation of three permanent full-time equivalent positions within the Department of Education to include one resource teacher, one community engagement specialist, and one school resource manager will greatly assist in the efforts to keep STEM learning opportunities at the forefront of our students, teachers, and schools. We respectfully request that the consideration of the establishment of these positions not adversely impact the priorities outlined in the Department's executive budget

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



**LATE**

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LEILEHUA HIGH SCHOOL  
1515 CALIFORNIA AVENUE  
WAHIAWA, HAWAII 96786

**Date:** 02/18/2015

**Time:** 01:17 PM

**Location:** 229

**Committee:** Senate Education, Agriculture

**School:** Leilehua High School

**Complex Area:** Central

**Person Testifying:** Mr. Jason Nakamoto, Principal

**Title of Bill:** SB 1303 RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates funds for new positions within the department of education, agribusiness development corporation, and college of tropical agriculture and human resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

**Position:**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 1303. The Leilehua Complex schools have been focused on curriculum, instruction, and assessment aligned to the Next Generation Science Standard that blend Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. We have been fortunate to receive Department of Defense grants that have assisted with substitute funding, equipment, training, and professional development. Leilehua High School has hosted Saturday Science Events for families, Wahiawa Middle takes the lead on the Leilehua Complex Robotics Competition using Lego and Vex robots, while Wahiawa Elementary School hosts an annual Central District 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Fair.

Our high school students have been very successful winning the 2015 VEX State Championship and State Engineering Design Award. Our JROTC has also won the Cyber Patriot National Championships in 2012 and 2013. We are also working on bringing supports for STEM to students with special education services that show giftedness in this particular area.

The creation of three permanent full-time equivalent positions within the Department of Education to include one resource teacher, one community engagement specialist, and one school resource manager will greatly assist in efforts to keep multiple opportunities available to students, teachers, and schools and will greatly benefit our larger community. However, we respectfully request that the consideration of the establishment of these positions not adversely impact the priorities outlined in the Department's executive budget.

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

Date: 02/18/2015

Time: 1:17 PM

Location: Conference Room 229

Committee: Education and Agriculture

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Bryan Pang, District Resource Teacher (Leilehua Complex)

Title of Bill: SB 1303: RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for new positions within the department of education, agribusiness development corporation, and college of tropical agriculture and human resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

My name is Bryan Pang and I have been a Leilehua Complex resource teacher for the past five years. There are ten schools in the Leilehua Complex: Hale Kula Elementary, Helemano Elementary, Iliahi Elementary, Kaala Elementary, Leilehua High, Solomon Elementary, Wahiawa Elementary, Wahiawa Middle, Wheeler Elementary, and Wheeler Middle. As of this coming 2015-16 school year, nine of our ten schools will be Title I schools (all except Wheeler Middle), which means that over a third of our students come from economically disadvantaged homes.

My role as a resource teacher includes assisting in the coordination of our complex-wide Professional Learning Communities (PLC), which are collaborative, vertical articulation team meetings amongst our librarians, counselors, student service coordinators, Quality Assurance Leilehua Team (for Special Education), and Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) coordinators. In addition, I help coordinate our complex area's 5<sup>th</sup> grade science fair, grades 5-8 Sea Perch, and elementary robotics competitions.

During these past five years, we have had two major grants which are now completed: a Department of Defense and Education Act (DODEA) science grant and a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center federal grant. Through these grants, our complex focus has continuously been on improving student achievement, advancing our students' knowledge and skills in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and promoting college-career-community-readiness. Over time, our test scores have improved, but since the grants have run out, we need further support to continue the work we began.

Project Whitmore has come at the right time and will help take us to the next level. In particular, Project Whitmore brings relevance to our students' learning and brings the possibility of real, and even higher paying jobs right into our students' back yard. As planned, Project Whitmore will be designed in such a way, where a K-12 STEM Resource Teacher will work with the ten schools in our Leilehua Complex, developing STEM curriculum, working with our teachers to deliver STEM lesson plans, and ultimately building our students' STEM knowledge and skills. For example, this coordinator will help our grades K-12 robotics

coordinators increase their knowledge and skills of robotics, so that they can appropriately equip our students in a vertically articulated manner. Vertical articulation means that skills can be built on top of skills already learned in a K-12 grade level progression.

Next, a Resource Manager will be housed at Leilehua High School and will partner with community organizations and businesses (particularly in agribusiness) to provide career internships and mentorships, while also helping to align Leilehua High's curriculum to the business community's needs. Along with the K-12 STEM Resource teacher, the resource manager will help ensure that our students are truly college-career ready. This entails equipping our students with the work habits, knowledge, and skills that students are expected to have once they graduate. For example, Lion Coffee plans to move its operations to Mililani Tech Park within the next 5 years, and plans to hire 50 people from the surrounding area. The resource manager would assist in aligning Leilehua's curriculum and providing internship/mentoring opportunities with Lion Coffee.

Third, a community engagement specialist will keep the Complex Area Superintendent and complex support staff informed of the Whitmore Project's progress, manage the project for the Department of Education (DOE), and coordinate vertical articulation amongst the schools, complex area, and DOE when engaging with businesses and community. For example, at the elementary level, the community engagement specialist would develop partnerships/mentorships with the business community in conjunction with the existing Science Fair, Sea Perch, and Robotics competitions, as well as bringing in business/community speakers to the elementary schools' career fairs. For sustainability, this position will be crucial in enlisting the business community's long-term support.

Together, these three full-time DOE positions will help our students be engaged in real life, STEM-related situations in a K-12 vertically aligned manner, helping them to become college-career ready for real jobs within the community. Not only does Project Whitmore have the potential to revitalize Wahiawa's economy and provide real jobs for our students, but it also has the potential to become a template for the rest of the state and complex areas to follow.