

SB2606

Measure Title: RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS.

Report Title: Technology in Schools; Digital Format; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Defines curricular materials to include both printed and digital material. Requires textbook manufacturers to make a digital format of the textbook available for use in public schools. Clarifies that moneys for curricular materials can be used for digital formats. Appropriates funds.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: EDU, WAM

Introducer(s): KIDANI, GALUTERIA, HARIMOTO, SHIMABUKURO, Nishihara



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

Date: 02/01/2016
Time: 01:15 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2606 RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS.

Purpose of Bill:

Department's Position:

The Department of Education supports the intent of SB 2606 and respectfully submits the following comments:

Printed and Digital Curricular Materials

Given the Department's concerns regarding possible unintended consequences as related to restrictions on purchasing curricular materials and current procurement law and Department regulations in place, we respectfully suggest the removal of Section 1, Lines 4 - 13.

Section 1, Lines 4-10, requests that printed curricular materials also be made available in an equivalent digital format. The Department has concerns regarding this section as it may limit the scope of materials that schools may seek to purchase. For example, many classrooms utilize resources native to Hawaii and manipulatives which may not be available in digital format.

Section 1, lines 11-13, proposes to allow schools to purchase digital formats of curricular materials. Existing procurement law and Department regulations guide school choice regarding the purchase, replacement, and repair of curricular materials. Chapter 103D-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and Chapter 3-120, Hawaii Administrative Rules, provide an exemption for the Department to purchase curricular materials. The exemption allows the Department to purchase research, reference, and educational materials, including books, maps, periodicals, and pamphlets, which are published or available in print, video, audio, magnetic, or electronic forms, including web-based databases.

Updating Definition of Curricular Materials

The Department supports the proposed amendments in Sections 2 and 3. Further, the Department proposes Section 2, lines 14 and 15, to be amended to include revision to Hawaii Administrative Rules, Chapter 57, Restitution for Damaged and Lost Books, Equipment, Supplies, and Outstanding Financial Obligations.

Sections 2 and 3 support a modernization of existing statutes to include digital content and instructional materials. Amendments offered in these sections support the use of digital devices in the classroom and allow digital curricular materials to be purchased, replaced, or repaired.

Digital Device Support

The Department is appreciative of the Legislature's inclusion of a \$12.8 million appropriation to support the Future Ready Program.

On October 20, 2015, the Hawaii State Board of Education approved the Fiscal Year 2016-17 supplemental budget request which included \$12.88 million to support the Future Ready Program. Specifically, \$12 million to help schools offset the cost of devices and \$880,000 to fund the professional development planned for school year 2016-17. However, the Executive Supplemental Budget did not include funding for Future Ready. In addition, a federal grant application to support the program was unsuccessful.

Section 4 appropriates \$12.8 million for fiscal year 2016-17 for digital devices for teachers and students to use in public school classrooms. Proposed additional general funding will allow schools to purchase needed digital devices. Additional professional development opportunities for educators will proactively meet the demand of increased digital device usage and expand the practice of career and college bound digital skills of our students.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2606.



February 1, 2016

Chairwoman Michelle N. Kidani
Senate District 18
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228

RE: SB 2606 - SUPPORT

Thank you Chairman Kidani and members of the Committee for the opportunity to weigh-in, in support of Senate Bill 2606. My name is Caroline Joiner and I am Executive Director of TechNet. TechNet is the bipartisan policy and political network of CEOs and senior executives that promotes the innovation economy. Our membership includes dynamic start-ups to the most iconic companies on the planet. I am pleased to have this opportunity to submit written testimony in support of SB 2606.

With global economic leadership at stake, education and workforce development are more critical than ever. TechNet's member companies rely on a strong pipeline of talent with the problem-solving, communication, collaboration, and computer literacy skills required in our global, interconnected and technology-driven economy.

Our companies have long collaborated with educators, policymakers and other stakeholders to promote the adoption of digital learning resources and technology integration because we believe it can fundamentally transform education, improve student outcomes and enable college and career readiness. ***It is for that reason that we believe SB 2606 is an important and critical investment for the State of Hawaii to make.***

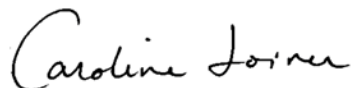
Every day, teachers go into classrooms with dozens of students who learn in different ways and at different paces. They struggle to match each student with the content and instructional approach to ensure each student's personal engagement and success. It's a true testament to the skill and commitment of our teachers that they do it so well, and underscores how important it is that we equip our teachers with the digital content and technology tools that will enable them to teach all students most effectively.

At the most basic level, digital content and tools can be regularly updated, revised and improved at any time. Technology-enabled tools and resources - like digitized books with embedded dictionaries and videos, virtual field trips, game-based multimedia simulation and animation - can be used to make complex concepts more visual and accessible and give students multiple ways and chances to understand and master content. Digital learning also powers collaboration between educators, empowering instructors to create courses using the best content available. Ultimately, compelling digital content and tools engage students, fuel exploration and motivate learning. These are the keys to success in the innovation economy.

Technology can also help make classroom learning more student-centered and personalized, putting the right information, tools, and resources in a teacher's hands, tailored to students' individual needs. It allows teachers to uniquely connect with each learner and provides quick feedback to teachers on where students are struggling, allowing them to provide additional instruction, and dynamically guide and accelerate learning. It also helps students better master material, pace their learning, review material, and be assessed and provided feedback before moving to another lesson.

Senate Bill 2606 ensures that Hawaii's school children are not missing out on the promise of digital learning content and tools. It is written in a way that provides flexibility for content providers and local educators and teachers to develop, select and utilize the best tools for the classroom and entire scholastic experience. TechNet respectfully requests your support on the measure and I am happy to respond to any questions or comments raised by this letter. I can be reached at cjoiner@technet.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Caroline Joiner".

Caroline Joiner
Executive Director
TechNet

Brandon Young

January 31, 2016

SB 2606: Technology in Education

My name is Brandon Young and I am writing in support of SB 2606. I believe that there should be technology in the classroom. This bill will help students to get their hands on technological devices and computers. Technology is the way of the future, and these devices will help them in the college or university that they attend. I am a former public school student and I have been using technology for many years now. I use technology on a every day basis and I think that this access to these devices will help students in this same manner. I would hope that this committee would consider the matter and move this bill forward.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2606 on Feb 1, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2016 11:32:43 PM

SB2606

Submitted on: 1/31/2016

Testimony for EDU on Feb 1, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Senate Committee on Education, I am testifying in support of SB2606 because of my belief regarding the importance of technology in education. As industries continue to become increasingly integrated with, and reliant upon, modern technology; the need for it in education grows as well. Not long ago, proficiency in computer word processing, presentation, and spreadsheet programs were considered pluses on a resume. Nowadays, many employers view them as a required baseline. Like learning a language, becoming familiarized and fluent with technology at an early age in the classroom plays a key role in utilization later in life, and will allow the students of today to gain the skills to meet the demands of the employers of tomorrow. Every year, legislators face the difficult challenge of balancing many needs within the limits of the state budget. But I humbly ask that this bill be moved forward to help increase the awareness of the importance of giving students the tools needed to learn in the 21st century.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Hawaii State Legislature
Senate Education Committee
1:15 p.m.
February 1, 2016

Re: SB 2606 Relating to Technology in Schools

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and members of the Committee:

I am writing to ask that you please support SB 2606 relating to technology in schools. This bill defines curricular materials to include both printed and digital material. It requires textbook manufacturers to make a digital format of the textbook available for use in public schools. This bill also clarifies that moneys for curricular materials can be used for digital formats and appropriates funds.

I have served as an elementary school teacher for students who speak English as a second language for over 20 years. My students come from Korea, Japan, China and other countries. Computers are essential for them to successfully integrate into Hawaii schools and to be successful in life. Supporting digital learning in public schools will most help students whose families would not otherwise be able to afford the technology that is creating a gap in between them and learners from more affluent families. Please support SB 2606.

Deanna Rasmussen
Honolulu, Hawaii

February 1, 2016

To: Senate Education Committee

From: Donna Block

Re: Support for SB 2606

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and Members of the Senate Education Committee. My name is Donna Block. I am a resident of Waikele and the parent of two adult children, both of whom are now pursuing college degrees. I am a graduate of Aiea High School and the University of Hawaii and have worked for more than 20 years in the area of engineering, technology and security. Digital learning for Hawaii's public school students is essential for our state's economy and the future of our country.

Please support SB 2606.

Hawaii State Legislature 2016
The Senate Education Committee
1:15 p.m.
February 1, 2016
Room 229

Re: **SUPPORT** SB 2606 Relating to Technology in Schools

Honorable Chair Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair Breene Harimoto and members of the Senate Education Committee:

Please support SB 2606 relating to technology in schools. My name is Steve Tokita and I am the parent of a student at a Pearl City middle school. I am also the owner of a small business that employs nearly a dozen people. I graduated from Pearl City High School and the University of Hawaii. As a parent, employer and resident of Hawaii, access to digital learning is important to me because it means opportunities for my child and, more importantly, children across the state.

I see private schools providing laptops, tablets and extensive technology in the classrooms. That is creating a disparity between our public school students and those who attend private schools. I also see that employees who apply to work with me come equipped with a variety of skills ranging from virtually "no" computer skills to those who are very well equipped for the digital age. I believe that support for technology is essential for all of Hawaii. Please advance this bill.

Mahalo for your consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: mwgyoung@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2606 on Feb 1, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, January 31, 2016 8:46:49 PM

SB2606

Submitted on: 1/31/2016

Testimony for EDU on Feb 1, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Virginia Young	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha, my name is Virginia Young and I have been a public school teacher for more than 15 years. My high school students are bright, willing and hard working. But they can't begin to have a fighting chance in the world we live in now, let alone tomorrow, without the tools and resources necessary. Digital learning is an absolute must in today's day -- and our students are falling behind when competing with others who have tablets, laptops and updated curriculum readily available. I have been giving serious thought to spending \$500 of my own money to purchase a laptop -- and over the years I have contributed my personal resources when the school's have been lacking. I'm writing to express my personal support for SB 2606. Please strongly consider passing this measure.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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