



LATE

KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committee on Education
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Time: 1:15 p.m.
Date: February 12, 2016
Where: State Capitol Room 229

TESTIMONY
By Ka'ano'i Walk
Kamehameha Schools

To: Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committees

RE: **SB 2881 Relating to Charter Schools**

E ka Luna Ho'omalua Kidani, ka Luna Ho'omalua Keith-Agaran, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalua Harimoto, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalua Shimabukuro a me nā Lālā o kēia mau Kōmike o ka 'Aha Kenekoa, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Kūamahi Community Education Group of Kamehameha Schools. Senate Bill 2881 relating to charter schools requires charter schools to administer and pay charter schools workers' compensation claims, and secure necessary funding to support payment for charter schools workers' compensation liabilities under one of the several options allowed by the Hawai'i workers' compensation law, including self-insurance.

As part of the second goal of Kamehameha Schools' strategic plan, which guides us to contribute to the communities' collective efforts to improve Hawai'i's education systems for Native Hawaiian learners, Kamehameha Schools is committed to support Hawaiian-focused charter schools and therefore we take this opportunity to **comment** on SB 2881. We support policies that promote high academic, financial and organizational standards for Hawai'i's public charter schools. However, we are concerned about the schools' ability to comply with the provisions of this bill when funding is provided in a way that does not address actual operational costs.

Kamehameha Schools advocates for and supports the achievement of Hawai'i's Native Hawaiian public school students. As such, we have been a collaborator with the Hawai'i public charter schools for over a decade. Through our work with Hawaiian-focused public charter schools, we hope to significantly impact more children and their families through education. We believe that Hawaiian-focused charter schools provide quality educational choices for our families and ultimately enhance both academic achievement and engagement for students. We encourage you, the leaders of our government to stand with us in supporting a move to improve the educational system in Hawai'i in this way.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is a statewide educational system supported by a trust endowed by Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, whose mission is to improve the capability and well-being of Native Hawaiian learners. We believe that by continuing to engage in dialog around these charter school policies and proposals, we can contribute in a positive and meaningful way. Mahalo nui.



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

Corey Rosenlee
President

Justin Hughey
Vice President

Amy Perruso
Secretary-Treasurer

Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION

RE: SB 2881 - RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2016

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **opposes SB 2881**, relating to charter schools.

While we understand that charter school workers' compensation liabilities have recently required appropriations of \$457,000 in 2013-2014 and \$545,000 in 2014-2015 to pay claims, we believe that the concerns expressed by this measure would be best addressed by discussing with the Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission the possibility of raising the corresponding 0.07 percent EDN 600 fee paid by charter schools to the Department of Human Resources Development.

Otherwise, we believe that bill would impose a financial toll on charter schools already struggling to repair facilities and expand educational programs. Charter schools often exist in remote communities or are smaller than traditional public schools. Forcing them to pay liability claims or become self-insured would likely be too taxing on small charters, which may lack the requisite personnel, expertise, or organizational capacity to administer workers' compensation claims.

Thus, to prevent worsening the fiscal burden borne by charter schools, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **oppose** this bill.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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

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The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Education
Committee on Judiciary

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 12, 2016

S.B. 2881 – RELATING TO
CHARTER SCHOOLS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO would like to provide comments on S.B. 2881 which requires charter schools to administer and pay charter schools workers' compensation claims, and secure necessary funding to support payment for charter schools workers' compensation liabilities under one of the several options allowed by the Hawaii Workers' Compensation law, including self-insurance.

Charter schools are already struggling with limited financial resources. Requiring charter schools to administer and pay their own claims and secure the necessary funding to support payment for their workers' compensation liabilities as of July 1, 2016, would severely impact their operations and services to their students.

We would encourage the parties be allowed the opportunity to explore an alternative solution to this problem.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on S.B. 2881.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: chantel96729@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2881 on Feb 12, 2016 13:15PM*
Date: Friday, February 12, 2016 8:51:30 AM

SB2881

Submitted on: 2/12/2016

Testimony for EDU/JDL on Feb 12, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chantel Moreno	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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

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Cc: karenpoepoe@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2881 on Feb 12, 2016 13:15PM*
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SB2881

Submitted on: 2/12/2016

Testimony for EDU/JDL on Feb 12, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Poepoe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2881 on Feb 12, 2016 13:15PM*
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SB2881

Submitted on: 2/12/2016

Testimony for EDU/JDL on Feb 12, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marla Thielk	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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