

# SB361

**Measure Title:** RELATING TO EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.  
**Report Title:** Home Schooling; Extracurricular Activities  
**Description:** Allows home schooled students to participate on an equal basis in extracurricular activities offered at the public school they would otherwise be required to attend.  
**Companion:**  
**Package:** None  
**Current Referral:** EDU, WAM  
**Introducer(s):** KEITH-AGARAN, ENGLISH, RIVIERE, SHIMABUKURO, Kidani

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
1/23/2015	S	Introduced.
1/26/2015	S	Passed First Reading.
1/26/2015	S	Referred to EDU, WAM.
2/6/2015	S	The committee(s) on EDU has scheduled a public hearing on 02-11-15 1:15PM in conference room 229.

**S** = Senate | **H** = House | **D** = Data Systems | **\$** = Appropriation measure | **ConAm** = Constitutional Amendment



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

**Date:** 02/11/2015  
**Time:** 01:15 PM  
**Location:** 229  
**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 0361 RELATING TO EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

**Purpose of Bill:** Allows home schooled students to participate on an equal basis in extracurricular activities offered at the public school they would otherwise be required to attend.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on SB 361. Respectfully, we will defer taking a position until the Board of Education (Board) is given the opportunity to review this measure.

Last year, the Board submitted its report in response to the 2013 Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 76 on this subject to the 2014 Legislature. The Board convened a stakeholder group to research models and best practices on home schooled student participation in public school extracurricular activities and sports and explore implementation of such a program in Hawaii.

In its report, the Board concluded:

- In light of the discussion at the stakeholder meeting wherein the issues and questions surrounding the particular seven items related to best practices were discussed but remained unsolved and the apparent lack of strong support of this initiative at this time, the Board is unable to recommend policy changes.
- The responses to the questions raised, particularly about the ongoing monitoring of the academic progress of homeschooled students and requisite funding for administration were paramount and require further examination before any policy decision and implementation can be considered.
- It is important to note that the principal stakeholders explained that their administrative responsibilities are tremendous and oversight and monitoring of the variety of curriculum that homeschoolers utilized would put a particular strain on their workload.
- The Homeschool representatives also noted that indicative of a parent's choice to homeschool is the desire to individually select curriculum, thus, determining a means to evaluate progress will be difficult.
- The Board is willing to relook at this issue at any time in the future should the need to arise.

- The stakeholder input was extremely valuable to identifying the salient issues that impact Hawaii's schools and Hawaii's homeschoolers. The Homeschool community is an important part of Hawaii's student population.

Bills relating to public education with policy implications are being reviewed by the Board. Positions taken will be subsequently shared with the appropriate legislative committees.



STATE OF HAWAII  
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**Testimony COMMENTING on SB361  
RELATING TO EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

SENATOR MICHELLE N. KIDANI, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Hearing Date: February 11, 2015                      Room Number: 229

1    **Fiscal Implications:** If a disease outbreak were to occur in a school setting, the Department  
2    would be responsible for costs associated with the outbreak investigation as well as the costs of  
3    any vaccines administered with the intent of preventing further disease transmission.

4    **Department Testimony:** Although the Department appreciates the intent of this measure, the  
5    Department strongly recommends that any home schooled child who wishes to participate in an  
6    extracurricular activity meet the same health requirements required of any student attending  
7    school in Hawaii, outlined in HRS §§302A-1154 through 1157. Introduction of a communicable  
8    disease such as measles or pertussis (whooping cough) into an environment where many children  
9    are closely congregated could lead to outbreaks, jeopardizing the health of the students, school  
10   faculty/staff, and the community should transmission occur.

11   **Offered Amendments:** The Department respectfully suggests the following amendment to  
12   SB361, "A home schooled child who wishes to participate in an extracurricular activity shall  
13   meet the health requirements for school entrance as delineated in HRS §§302A-1154 through  
14   1157 prior to participation in school-based activities as well as the participation requirements and  
15   restrictions for that activity, including maintaining appropriate grade point averages and paying  
16   appropriate fees; provided that the requirements or restrictions shall not be inconsistent with this  
17   section. "

18   Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [EDU Testimony](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB361 on Feb 11, 2015 13:15PM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 10, 2015 5:45:04 AM

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**SB361**

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for EDU on Feb 11, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Martha G Abbott	ACTFL	Support	No

Comments:

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

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February 10, 2015

Dear Senators,

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion. I support SB 361.

Allowing home schooled students to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at the public school that the child would otherwise be required to attend will benefit the home educated student tremendously.

For the home schooled student, some activities such as certain sports, cheerleading, clubs, and other programs are not possible to do at home. Allowing the home schooled child to participate in various programs at their local school will broaden his education experience.

Also, many collegiate scholarship programs are offered through the various sports and club programs such as swim team and soccer, JROTC, band, choir, chess and so forth. Allowing homeschool students to participate in these activities would enrich their education before graduation, as well as provide great opportunities in college and beyond.

Please support SB 361.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Lisa Poulos