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STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

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FOR: SB832 Relating to Education
DATE: Monday, March 2, 2015
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
COMMITTEE(S): Senate Committee on Ways and Means
ROOM: Conference Room 211
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 832, “Relating to Education,” which would allow a charter school student who is currently enrolled at a public charter school that has been notified of the prospect of revocation or nonrenewal, or is closing, to enroll in a Department of Education school outside of the student’s service area.

This measure seeks to address the needs to students and their parents who have been or will be displaced due to the closure or impending closure of a public charter school due to revocation of the school’s charter contract. The Commission’s concern is to ensure that students and their families who are affected by such an event be given as much opportunity and assistance as our public school system can afford in making this difficult transition easier, including consideration for a geographic exception.

This bill is not intended to provide such charter school students with an automatic advantage over other students seeking a geographic exception. Rather, it would grant the receiving school’s principal the discretion to consider the urgency of the affected student’s situation when making a decision.

We would respectfully request that the bill be revised to delete the reference to nonrenewal. The nonrenewal of a charter school’s charter contract would occur through a contract renewal/nonrenewal process with plenty of advance notice, and thus would not present the

same time exigencies for families as does a revocation, which by definition occur under urgent circumstances.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

SB832

Submitted on: 2/28/2015

Testimony for WAM on Mar 2, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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