

SB832

DAVID IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

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

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FOR: SB 832 Relating to Education
DATE: Friday, February 6, 2015
TIME: 1:15 p.m.
COMMITTEE(S): Senate Committee on Education
ROOM: Conference Room 229
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto, 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.

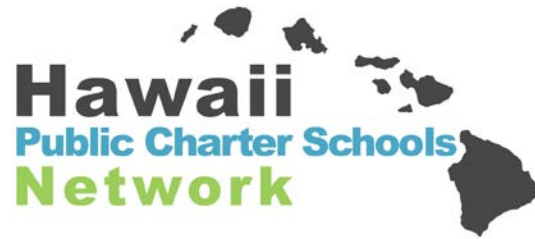
This measure seeks to address the needs to students and their parents who have been or will be displaced due to the closure or impending closure of a public charter school due to revocation of the school’s charter contract. The Commission’s concern is to ensure that students and their families who are 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 is occurring under urgent circumstances.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Education

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PLACE: Conference Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

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

Re: SB832 – Relating to Education, In Support

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. SB832 aims to allow a public charter school student who has been notified of the prospect of charter revocation, nonrenewal or school closure to enroll in a school outside of the student's service area.

Hawaii Public Charter School Network (HPCSN) supports SB832. In the very unfortunate case when a charter school has been notified of revocation, nonrenewal or closure, HPCSN supports the effort to make the transition for charter school students and their families to a new school as easy and seamless as possible.

HPCSN is committed to quality education for all public school students in Hawaii through our support of, and work with, Hawaii's public charter schools. Please do not hesitate contact us should you have any questions.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Finnegan". The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Lynn Finnegan
Executive Director

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: ian.l.york@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB832 on Feb 6, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Thursday, February 05, 2015 12:41:37 PM

SB832

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for EDU on Feb 6, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ian York	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Students need extra enrollment options under these possible circumstances

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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