

SB866

Measure Title: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT THE AFTER-SCHOOL PLUS PROGRAM.

Report Title: After-School Plus (A+) Program; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Appropriates moneys for the After-School Plus (A+) Program.

Companion: [HB732](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: EDU, WAM

Introducer(s): KIDANI, DELA CRUZ

Sort by Date		Status Text
1/23/2015	S	Introduced.
1/26/2015	S	Passed First Reading.
1/28/2015	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 0866 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT THE AFTER-SCHOOL PLUS PROGRAM.

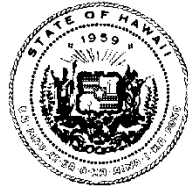
Purpose of Bill: Appropriates moneys for the After-School Plus (A+) Program.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) would like to provide comment on SB 866 which appropriates moneys for the After-School Plus (A+) Program. The A+ Program provides affordable, statewide afterschool child care for latchkey elementary students. The term "latchkey" refers to children who do not have an adult present in the home to provide afterschool supervision. Parents must be employed, attending school, or in a job training program.

However, the Department requests that the implementation of SB 866 would not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 10, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 866 – MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT THE AFTER-SCHOOL PLUS PROGRAM**

**Hearing: Wednesday, February 11, 2015; 1:15 PM
Conference Room 229, State Capitol**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to enhance the administration of the A+ program, improve the program's content and alleviate the tuition burden on participating families. The bill proposes an appropriation to the Department of Education (DOE).

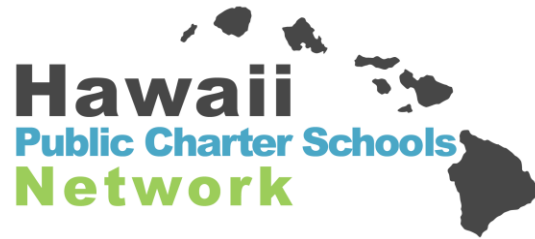
DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this bill as long as its passage does not adversely impact the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget.

The purpose of the A+ Program is to reduce the incidence of latch-key children by providing a safe, affordable and structured after-school child care for working families with children attending Department of Education (DOE) elementary schools.

DHS continues to subsidize the full cost of A+ Program fees for approximately 8,081 children of employed families that are eligible to receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits. An increase in program fees would result in either less TANF

eligible children being served, or require additional appropriation to the DHS to maintain the current level of service.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.



Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Education

DATE: Wednesday, February 11, 2014
TIME: 1:15 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229 , Hawaii State Capitol

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

Re: SB 866, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT THE AFTER-SCHOOL PLUS PROGRAM

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 866.

Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network (HPCSN) represents 30 of 34 public charter schools in Hawaii and is committed to quality education for all public school students through our support of, and work with, charter schools.

HPCSN believes that A+ is an important educational support for students and their families. We understand that A+ has not been consistently funded across charter schools. Please consider a mechanism that allows equitable funding for A+ programs in charter schools across the State. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Mahalo for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Finnegan". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Lynn Finnegan
Executive Director



MOILIILI COMMUNITY CENTER

February 9, 2015

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
State Capitol, Room 229
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

Re: Letter of Support for SB 866 After-School Plus (A+) Program

This letter of support is for the After-School Plus (A+) Program, Senate Bill 866 to restore funding for the A+ Program.

As the minimum wage increased in January 2015, and will continue to increase for the next two years, the rising cost for after-school programs will be affected.

Currently, the program is supported by the parent's monthly fees and the Department of Human Service subsidies for income eligible families. Legislation support is needed to substitute tuition burden, maintain continued participation, and to continue a high quality after-school program.

As an A+ Private Provider, and an advocate of after-school programs, parent's need an affordable child care program to assure their child's safety and accountability while they are working, going to school, or in a job training program.

In support of SB 866, please consider the passage of this bill to continue and maintain the quality of After-School A+ Programs.

Sincerely,

Brenda Nakamura

Children & Families Director
E-mail: brendan@moiliilicc.org



Testimony in Support of SB 866
To Senate Education Committee
Hawaii State Legislature
Wednesday, February 11, 2015

By Mark E. Zeug, President, Kahoomiki

Committee chair Kidani, vice chair Harimoto, and members of the committee:

My name is Mark Zeug, and I am president of a small non-profit that administers a physical fitness and nutrition education program within the A+ after school program. For the past seven years, we have been working with the Department of Education, and with independent A+ program providers like the YMCA and Kama`aina Kids.

I'm here today to lend my support to this bill, which is designed to restore to the A+ program the funding that was cut from it during the fiscal crisis in 2009. When A+ was created back in 1989-90, the legislature provided an appropriation of around \$11 million for its support and organization. Over the years, that support was reduced to around \$6 million per year, while parents of A+ participants were required to pay a monthly tuition fee to help cover expenses.

Four years ago, that Legislative support through the DOE was reduced to zero, and the parents' fee was raised from \$55 per month per child to \$85 per month. With that increase, the Department of Human Services, which covers the participation fees of those children whose families require temporary assistance, saw its share of A+ costs rise to approximately \$6 million a year.

On January 1 of this year, Hawaii's minimum wage increased to \$7.75 per hour. This increase affects nearly all of the A+ group leaders, the ones who work directly with the children, some 800 of them statewide. The added cost to the A+ providers will require additional funds to be added to the A+ pot. In addition, the Department of Education retains responsibility for administering a popular and valuable program for which it has no direct legislative support.

We believe restoring legislative support to A+, to the level it was before the cuts sustained in 2008-2009, or about \$6 million per year, would do two things:

First, it would ensure that participation in the program could continue without another tuition increase, while all A+ program providers could maintain the staffing required to meet the needs of the participants.

And second, and even more important from my view, it would provide the funds necessary to help build the program into the kind of expanded learning opportunity that A+ contains. It's easy to measure that opportunity – 20,000 elementary school children statewide, held as a captive audience for three hours a day, five days a week, ten months out of the year. That's a huge expanded learning opportunity, and it reaches a part of the community that often cannot otherwise get the kinds of after-school programming that helps students succeed.

In an on-going longitudinal study, the University of California at Davis has shown conclusively

that children from lower-income families achieve personal and academic parity with other children through regular participation in quality after-school programs.

Is A+ that kind of program? We believe it definitely can be, and it is imperative that we do all we can to make it so, for all 18,000 child participants. We strongly support this bill, and urge the Legislature to fund it at a level commensurate with its importance and value.

Thank you for allowing me to present this information.

Aloha,
Mark Zeug
President, Kaho`omiki

YMCA of Honolulu
Testimony in Support of SB 866
To the Honorable Senate Education Committee
February 11, 2015

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Harimoto, and Members of the Committee:

The YMCA of Honolulu stands in strong support of SB 866 "Making an appropriation to support the Afterschool APLUS (A+) Program". SB 866 calls for restoring funding to the State's Afterschool A+ Program, which was removed during the 2009 fiscal crisis.

Hawaii took pride in its commitment to ensure the safety and well-being of "latch key" children when the Afterschool A+ Program was established in 1989. The intent was to provide quality affordable care when the school day ended so parents could be worry-free and productive at work or focus on furthering their education or job training to secure a brighter future for their families. The children would be safe in a supervised environment, receive help with their homework, and engage in a range of enriching activities. Over time this commitment has declined due to the removal of appropriated funds that subsidized the cost of the program and provided for adequate administrative staffing. Our State's Afterschool A+ Program serves approximately 20,000 children, statewide. That is significant. Today, with the removal of State funds, our families carry the full cost of the Program, which places a financial strain on many who strive to earn a living to support their families. Our families need our State's Afterschool A+ Program. It is held at their child's school, a place they know and trust that their child will be safe and taken care of.

The cost of quality care comes with a price. As one of Hawaii's largest private A+ provider serving nearly 7,000 children on Oahu alone, the YMCA bears witness to the struggles families are faced with by the added cost of child care. At the same time, providers like the YMCA are challenged to maintain the highest quality possible in the staff we hire and experiences we provide for the children entrusted in our care. With the recent passage of the well-needed minimum wage law, as an example, operating costs will increase. SB 866 calls for the reinstatement of appropriated funds to the State's Afterschool A+ Program which will support the enhancement of oversight and administration of the A+ Program, provide for professional training for program staff, and ultimately improve the content of the A+ Program.

The YMCA fully supports SB 866 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill so Hawaii's students may receive the quality care and support that they need and deserve.

Sincerely,
Michael Broderick, President/CEO
YMC A Honolulu

Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance
841 Bishop Street, Suite 301 · Honolulu, HI 96813

February 11, 2015

Senate Committee on Education
State Capitol, Room 229
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

Re: Support of SB866: Making an appropriation to support the After-School Plus (A+) Program.

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto, and Committee Members:

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance strongly supports Senate Bill 866, which seeks to restore some of the funding to the After-School Plus (A+) Program that was taken away during the 2009 state fiscal crisis.

At this point in time, the A+ Program is solely supported by parents' monthly fees and subsidies from the Department of Human Services for children who are eligible for assistance. These two sources of funding barely covers the cost of the A+ program. The increase of the minimum wage as of January 1, 2015 has directly affected the A+ Program by increasing the cost of it. Legislative support is needed to alleviate the tuition burden on families and to make the A+ a high-quality program for Hawaii afterschool students.

The "2014 America After 3PM" report that is attached to this testimony articulates some relevant and important statistics:

- **93% of Hawai'i parents support public funding for afterschool programs,**
- 86% of Hawai'i parents agree that afterschool programs give working parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work,
- 72% of parents in Hawai'i agree that afterschool programs help parents keep their jobs,
- 75% of Hawai'i parents agree that afterschool programs reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors, and
- 62% of the parents in Hawai'i agree that afterschool programs excite children about learning.

These numbers provide strong reasoning for protecting and supporting Hawai'i's quality afterschool programs.

In conclusion, the Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance strongly supports SB866 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need to participate in a high-quality afterschool program. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Paula Adams
Executive Director
Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance
(p/f): 808-380-1602



HAWAII AFTER 3PM

America After 3PM surveyed parents in Hawaii to examine how children spend the hours between 3 and 6 p.m.—the hours after school ends and before parents typically return home from work. It highlights the trends in afterschool program participation, documents the benefits associated with participation in afterschool programs, and measures public support for afterschool programs.

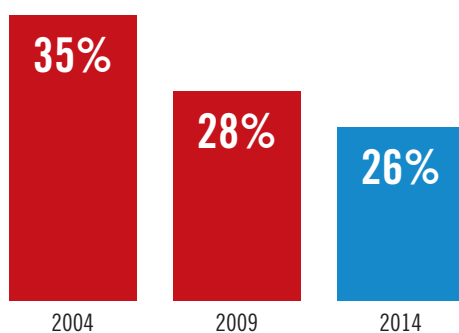


America After 3PM revealed that **54,184 children (26%) in Hawaii** participate in an afterschool program, yet **59,057 children (38%) would be enrolled** in a program if one were available to them.

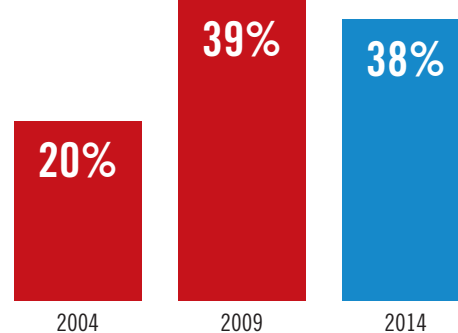
With **89% of Hawaii's parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program** and **68% agreeing that afterschool programs give working parents peace of mind**, more work needs to be done to ensure that all children in Hawaii are able to take part in an afterschool program that keeps them safe, inspires learning and supports working parents.

OVERALL DEMAND FOR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Afterschool Program Participation in Hawaii



Demand for Afterschool Programs in Hawaii



17%

of children are unsupervised after school in 2014 for an average of 9.2 hours per week.

On average, children spend **7.63 hours and 4.4 days per week** in an afterschool program.

Hawaii Parents are Satisfied with their Child's Afterschool Program

- 89% are satisfied with their child's afterschool program overall.
- 86% are satisfied with their child's afterschool program's safe environment.
- 79% are satisfied with their child's afterschool program's quality of care.
- Hawaii parents cited as their top five reasons for selecting an afterschool program: the hours meet their needs (89%), location is convenient (87%), quality of care (86%), the program is a safe haven (85%) and their child enjoys the afterschool program (83%).

Afterschool Programs Provide a Wide Range of Benefits to Hawaii's Children and Families

- 62% of parents agree that afterschool programs can help excite children about learning.
- 64% of parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills, such as teamwork, leadership and critical thinking.
- 75% of Hawaii parents agree that afterschool programs can help reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors, such as commit a crime or use drugs, or become a teen parent.
- The top five activities Hawaii parents report are offered by their child's afterschool program are opportunities for physical activity (94%), homework assistance (87%), music or art (64%), before-school programs (63%) and opportunities for reading or writing (51%).

Hawaii Parents Support Public Funding for Afterschool Programs

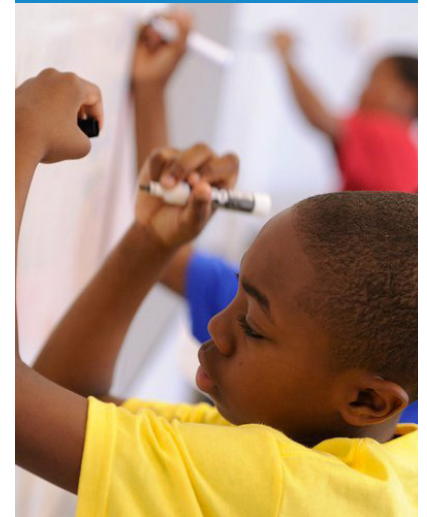
- 93% of Hawaii parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 16% report receiving government assistance with the cost of their child's program.
- 68% of Hawaii parents agree that afterschool programs help give working parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work.
- 72% of Hawaii parents agree that afterschool programs help working parents keep their jobs.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

The percentages and projected numbers of children and families in *America After 3PM* are based on survey responses from parents. The Afterschool Alliance contracted with Shugoll Research to collect the data. Nationally, 30,720 households were screened, and 13,709 households completed in-depth interviews via an online survey using a blend of national consumer panels. At least 200 households completed interviews in every state and the District of Columbia, between Feb. 28 and April 17, 2014. In Hawaii 200 households and 382 children were screened for this study. Child-level statewide projections and total school enrollment numbers are based on 2011-2012 Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Total school enrollment for Hawaii is 210,833. For additional information about *America After 3PM*, visit: <http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM>.

America After 3PM is funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The Wallace Foundation, the Ford Foundation and the Noyce Foundation, with additional support from the Heinz Endowments, The Robert Bowne Foundation and the Samueli Foundation.

Snapshot of Afterschool Programs in Hawaii



26% of Hawaii children in an afterschool program qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program.

In Hawaii, the top three providers of afterschool programs are afterschool programs run by a public school, YMCA afterschool programs and afterschool programs run by a private school.

76% of afterschool programs in Hawaii are located in a public school building.

On average, Hawaii families who pay for their child's afterschool program spend \$51 per week.

After lack of need, the predominant obstacles to enrollment include:

Preference for alternative activities.

The afterschool programs are too expensive.