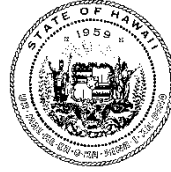


SB984



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY  
OF  
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
EDUCATION  
ON  
FEBRUARY 2, 2015

S.B. 984

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Chair Kidani and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 984. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) does not support S.B. 984 for the following reasons:

1. We are working with the Department of Education (DOE) to implement a statewide service level agreement to ensure that school work order repair performance will be the same regardless of what island the school is located on. DAGS' neighbor island school repair operations will be adopting the performance metric currently used by DOE Facility Maintenance operations. This will provide the reporting mechanism to measure DAGS performance on the same level as the DOE facilities operations so an equitable and objective evaluation can be made.
2. In addition to the school repair and maintenance functions for 93 schools, DAGS is also responsible for the repair and maintenance of the 50 state facilities and 28 public libraries on the neighbor islands. With the

171 facilities DAGS is responsible for, utilization of the trade crews are maximized. If the neighbor island school repair functions were transferred to DOE, there would be redundant trade (i.e. one plumber for the DOE, one plumber for DAGS etc.), supervisory, and management staff thus increasing cost and reducing the utilization of the trade crews.

Alternatively, DAGS would support the reconvening of the “interagency working group” identified in Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, to evaluate the outcomes of the transfers of resources that have occurred, address issues that currently exist, and develop solutions to resolve these issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Executive Director

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**TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 984, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION**

**Senate Committee on Education  
Hon. Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Hon. Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair**

**Monday, February 2, 2015, 1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

Honorable Chair Kidani and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 300 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of Senate Bill 984, relating to the Department of Education.

IMUAlliance supports the reestablishment of an interagency working group to review capital improvements and maintenance of public school facilities, which faced an approximately \$265 million backlog at this time last year. **That said, we encourage you to establish and fund a more comprehensive overview of Act 51.** It has been over 10 years since the enactment of systemic education reforms under Act 51. The progress of Act 51's impact on our state's educational goals is, as any highly effective educator would say, something that should be continuously monitored by all stakeholders, including teachers. Over 50 percent of IMUAlliance's members are teachers. On their behalf, we humbly ask you to create a working group to review instructional time increases, weighted student formula funding, technology-based learning, principal empowerment, strengthening community involvement, lowering class size, and reducing departmental bureaucracy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,  
Kris Coffield  
*Legislative Director*  
IMUAlliance

1/29/15

This bill seeks to further support a toxic empire and one that is already too large to provide its mission statement towards educational deliverables. Hawaii ranks 37<sup>th</sup> among the Union in regards to the Science and Engineering Readiness Index (SERI) and 35<sup>th</sup> in general. The DOE needs to focus on education and not on outer island building maintenance/projects. Leave that to DAGS! Further, the DOE is already too large to even manage itself. I work for the DOE on Maui and am reporting as a private citizen in a district with the greatest due process rates, which is interestingly the same district in which the Felix Decree emerged from. We must have no shame if we have not learned from our past and reduce future litigation. If the DOE can't manage its mission focused liabilities how can we expect it to manage property or maintenance it. It's time to decentralize HIDOE not continue its inefficient growth. Kill this bill and let's focus more importantly on immediate risks such as cane smoke and buffer zones from pesticide companies.

Harold Ames, Public Servant

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/07/11/state-education-rankings-\\_n\\_894528.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/07/11/state-education-rankings-_n_894528.html)