

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 04/14/2016
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 153, SD1 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A TWO-YEAR PILOT PROJECT TO IMPLEMENT CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON A BLOCK BASIS IN ADDITION TO ON A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS.

Purpose of Resolution:

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports SCR 153 SD1.

The Department welcomes the opportunity to collaboratively work with stakeholders to explore contracted services on a block basis to better address a least restrictive environment for special education students.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
April 14, 2016

The Honorable Roy M. Takumi, Chair
House Committee on Education
and

The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair
House Committee on Human Services
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representatives Takumi and Morikawa, and Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: SCR 153 SD1 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A TWO-YEAR PILOT PROJECT TO IMPLEMENT CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON A BLOCK BASIS IN ADDITION TO A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SCR 153 SD1**. The resolution calls for the Department of Education (DOE) to conduct a pilot project to implement contracts for services for students with disabilities on a block basis in addition to a one-to-one basis.

The pilot project provides opportunity for DOE to demonstrate a cost benefit analysis of contracting services through a block contract model and an employee-based model. Block contracting offers flexibility in the delivery of services to directly address multiple and diverse needs of students through one-on-one and group settings specific to the individual's education plan.

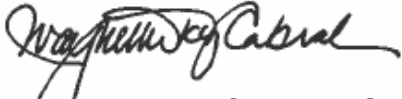
The results of the pilot project would provide useful data and shed light on the most cost efficient use of funds and use of DOE personnel with the maximum benefit to students with disabilities in the delivery of services. With limited funds for special education services and low academic performance of students with disabilities, it is in the best interest of DOE to implement the pilot project.

The Council supports the request in the resolution that ask DOE to convene a working group to assist in the pilot project. We welcome the opportunity to work with DOE, parents, and community stakeholders indicated on Page 2 to carry out the activities to implement the pilot project.

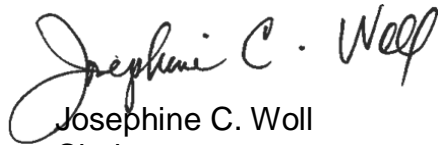
The Honorable Roy M. Takumi
The Honorable Dee Morikawa
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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SCR 153 SD1.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator



Josephine C. Woll
Chair



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

April 14, 2016

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senate Concurrent Resolution 153, SD1 – Requesting the Department of Education to Conduct a Two-Year Pilot Project to Implement Contracts for Services for Students with Disabilities on a Block Basis in Addition to on a One-to-One Basis

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports Senate Concurrent Resolution 153, SD1 to request the Department of Education to conduct a two-year pilot project to implement contracts for services for students with disabilities on a block basis in addition to on a one-to-one basis.

The Senate joint Committees on Education and Human Services incorporated our concern regarding some students needing one to one assistance that may not benefit in a block services basis, and by including an adult with disabilities who has gone through the public school system to serve on the working group in SD1.

With the amendments in SD1, we anticipate the working group will develop and implement a pilot project that will assist the Department of Education provide improved and more cost effective services for students with disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG
Chairperson
Legislative Committee

for FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council

919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101

Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129

email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

April 14, 2016

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

Ms. Martha Guinan, *Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta

Dr. Tammy Bopp

Dr. Robert Campbell, *liaison
to the military*

Ms. Deborah Cheeseman

Ms. Annette Cooper

Ms. Gabriele Finn

Mr. Sage Goto

Ms. Valerie Johnson

Ms. Deborah Kobayakawa

Ms. Bernadette Lane

Ms. Dale Matsuura

Ms. Stacey Oshio

Ms. Zaidarene Place

Ms. Barbara Pretty

Ms. Kau'i Rezendes

Ms. Rosie Rowe

Dr. Patricia Sheehey

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair

Ms. Lani Solomona

Dr. Todd Takahashi

Dr. Daniel Ulrich

Dr. Amy Wiech

Ms. Jasmine Williams

Ms. Susan Wood

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff

Susan Rocco, Staff

Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Committee on Education

Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Committee on Human Services
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: SCR 153, SD 1 - REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A TWO-YEAR PILOT PROJECT
TO IMPLEMENT CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES FOR
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON A BLOCK BASIS IN
ADDITION TO ON A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS**

Dear Chairs Takumi and Morikawa and Members of the Committees,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), **strongly supports** SCR 153 SD 1 that creates a pilot program within the Department of Education to implement contracts for supports for students with disabilities on a block basis. Block basis refers to a flexible unit of service to address the diverse needs of one or more students based on each student's Individualized Education Program. It includes both one-to-one services and group services as appropriate for the identified needs of the students served.

This resolution originated from the community. The Coalition on Children with Special Needs, of which SEAC is a participating member, has been on record for several years in advising the Department on maintaining continuity of quality support to students with disabilities through more cost effective utilization of contracted personnel. Given our interest, we are pleased to be included in the working group outlined in the legislation.

At a time when legislators and other policy makers are focusing on appropriate supports to improve the dismal academic performance of students with disabilities, as well as the efficient use of special education funds, SCR 153, SD 1 offers an opportunity to address three drawbacks of the current contracting system:



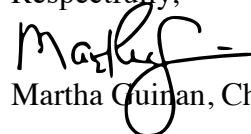
- 1) the potentially negative (although unintentional) effects on some students with disabilities receiving one-to-one contracted paraprofessional services. A number of educational studies have documented the unintended detrimental effects of “excessive paraprofessional proximity” including, but not limited to:
 - separation from classmates,
 - unnecessary dependence,
 - limited access to appropriate instruction,
 - interference with the engagement of teachers,
 - provocation of problem behaviors,
 - interference with peer interactions, and
 - loss of personal control (Giangreco et al., 2005);
- 2) the lack of flexibility for efficient use of classroom personnel in group instruction; and
- 3) the high cost of one-to-one programming.

In the pilot project students requiring one-to-one services per their IEP will continue to receive those services, while other students needing intermittent support and opportunities to learn alongside their typically developing peers will also benefit from receiving appropriate services through flexible service delivery models. SEAC anticipates the two-year pilot will demonstrate substantial cost savings to the Department through more efficient use of contract funds. The flexible use of contracted personnel may also help to mitigate the missing supports resulting from a chronic shortage of Educational Assistants. In addition, the working group and pilots will help to research and determine evidence-based models for providing flexible and effective supports to students per their IEPs.

SEAC is aware of the issue of families and providers mistrusting the intentions of the Department and is committed to working collaboratively with the Department, providers and families to ensure robust communication, transparency and positive outcomes for students with disabilities. In addition, there is a general perception that contract costs are inherently more expensive than employee-based service delivery models. SEAC anticipates that the required cost-benefit analysis and comparison of a block contract model vs. an employee-based model may reveal a number of hidden costs in the employee-based model, making the expenditures comparable. The data provided by the analysis will help to provide greater clarity for decision-making about service delivery models that are beneficial to the student in terms of continuity and quality of support, while at the same time being cost effective.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important legislation. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Respectfully,


Martha Guinan, Chair



COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL OF HAWAII
1177 Alakea Street · B-100 · Honolulu · HI · 96813
TEL: (808) 586-5363 · TOLL FREE: 1-800-437-8641 · FAX: (808) 586-5366

April 14th, 2016

TO: Committees on Education and Human Services – State Capitol

RE: **SCR153** – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A TWO-YEAR PILOT PROJECT TO IMPLEMENT CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON A BLOCK BASIS RATHER THAN ON A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS.

Dear Chairs Takumi and Morikawa, Vice-Chair Ohno and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committee,

The Community Children's Councils (CCC's) **supports SCR153** which requests the DOE to conduct a 2 year pilot project to implement contracts for students with disabilities on a block bases rather than on a one-to-one basis.

The CCC's support the testimony of SEAC. We are aware of the potentially significant negative consequences of an over reliance on 1:1 paraprofessional services. Block services will allow children whose IEP services support group instruction to be grouped together with students having similar needs which provides greater flexibility for delivery of services to expand social, communication, life skills and academic goals. We recognize there are some reservations by community members, however we are committed to see the success of this pilot. The provision of services is based upon the child's IEP which will determine if group services are appropriate.

The CCC's are delighted to be a part of the workgroup with other community organizations, SEAC and DD Council. We look forward to continuing this work and collaborating with the Department on this important issue.

The 17 CCCs are community-based bodies comprised of parents, professionals in both public and private agencies and other interested persons who are concerned with specialized services provided to Hawaii's students. Membership is diverse, voluntary and advisory in nature. The CCCs are in rural and urban communities organized around the Complexes in the Department of Education.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Community Children's Council Office (CCCO) at 586-5363.

Thank you for considering our testimony,
Jessica Wong-Sumida, Chair

(Original signature are on file with the CCCO)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 9:19 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: louis@hawaiidisabilityrights.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR153 on Apr 14, 2016 14:00PM

SCR153

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for EDN/HUS on Apr 14, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louis Erteschik	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: We continue to oppose this. We have tried to discuss the issue with stakeholders who support the measure. However, in our view they still have not presented any valid rationale for this proposal and we are still of the belief that it will inevitably lead to an attempt by the DOE to curtail the services they are required by federal law to provide to students under the IDEA.

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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