

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 03/22/2017
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0553, SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Authorizes allocation of supplemental categorical funding to remote schools, subject to legislative appropriation. Appropriates funds. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Department supports the intent of SB 0553, SD1, to designate Hana High and Elementary, Lanai High and Elementary, Niihau, and Molokai High as "remote schools," and establish a new program to provide supplemental categorical funding to support additional instructional and support staff.

The Department has long held that funding for all public schools is inadequate. Additional state support for public schools would be appreciated.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 1:46 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments: www.WeAreOne.cc

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EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 7:41 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM*

SB553

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 7:58 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: jbickel15@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bickel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on the Weighted Student Formula which has some benefits but has also harmed small schools. My friends in Hana are a case in point. This bill essentially takes Hana High & Elementary School (a K-12 small remote school) with about 350 students total out from what is currently a very unfair funding model. There are not many schools in a similar situation but for those who are, they need to be given relief. Hana's budget prior to WSF was about \$3.1 million in 2007, but in 2012 it was \$1.8 million. Now in 2016-17 the WSF funding formula gives Hana only \$2.1 million (there is some supplementation by the Superintendents Reserve Fund but that is not guaranteed). There I support this bill.

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EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 8:02 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: scott@aloha.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Crawford	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Rural schools in remote areas like Hana are especially disadvantaged in funding and other opportunities with current unfair weighting formulas. The students here in Hana deserve the support equal to their potential. The weighted student formula is fair for rural schools and communities. Please support this bill. Mahalo.

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EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 8:24 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: mavisoliveira@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hana School has suffered for many years under the weighted school formula, having to cut Teachers, Security (none), EA's, Art & Music for several years. This has resulted in many students leaving Hana at the high school level, once they or parents realize there's only 6 to 8 electives to choose from because we can't afford to hire Teachers for other classes. We haven't had Japanese or Spanish for many years. Mahalo, Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros Earle Medeiros, Sr John-Bull English Earle Medeiros, Jr

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January 30, 2017

TO: Honorable Chair Justin H. Woodson and Members of Committee on Education

RE: SB553 SD1 Relating to Education
Support for hearing on March 22

While I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 553 SD1 as an individual, I am also the current Chair of the Hāna School Community Council, a former DOE teacher at Hāna High & Elementary School, and a current substitute teacher at Hāna School.

Hāna School's major problems revolve about the total inadequacy of the weighted student formula (WSF) to fund small, remote, multi-level schools such as Hāna School that is a K-12 school with a total of about 350 students.

There are not many schools in a similar situation but for those of us who are in our situation, we need to be given relief. Our budget prior to WSF was about \$3.1 million in 2007, in 2012 it was \$1.8 million, and now in 2016-17 the WSF funding formula gives us only \$2.1 million (there is some supplementation by the Superintendents Reserve Fund but that is not guaranteed). And, because of cost increases, the financial harm is intensified and we have even fewer instructional resources than \$2.3 million would have given us a decade ago.

We no longer have a School Librarian, Physical Education Teacher, Music Teacher, Foreign Language Teacher, and many other positions. This discriminates against the educational opportunities that can be offered to our students vis-à-vis opportunities in other parts of the DOE system.

I therefore support SB553 SD1 as a way to give all the students of this State a full opportunity for a 21st century education.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ward Mardfin

Ward Mardfin, PhD

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 9:17 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: mauifaith@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faith Chase	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hana School is in great need of this legislation as a means to a complete fair education offering. The obstacles of being so isolated adds to every challenge. Please support this measure as this area has repeatedly been subject to unfair challenges and setbacks. Sincerely, Faith Chase
Hana School Alumni

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 10:16 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM*

SB553

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 10:48 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: mauiamy@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLease pass this bill. I work through Hana Arts at Hana school and all the kids need every possible support they can get. Thank you

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EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 7:00 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: burgharc@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Sorry this is a bit late but I just saw it. AUWE! ALL students, no matter the size or location of their school are entitled to an educational experience that meets their needs. While "on-line" courses can provide content knowledge, there is nothing that is as valuable as the chance for dialogue, discussion and face to face problem solving for a student. Please take the time to assist Hana School as well as any other school that needs it. IF we have time and money to bring "independent consultants"* from off island at their exhorbitant rates to tell us what we already know, we should be able to fund what is needed at the basic level for ALL of our students. *(schools of innovention, Michelle Rhee, Tony Wagner, etc.)

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Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 8:02 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: STRONGLY SUPPORT!

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Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 7:37 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: cushmanzoo@hawaiiintel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharron Cushman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB553 SD1. Rural issues need different approaches.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 8:50 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: lsierraknight@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LS Knight	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support full funding for rural Hawaii schools. This is essential to maintain native hawaiians and other rural dwellers to be assured of an equal education as 'city' dwellers or those close to more populated areas have. Education is guaranteed to be accessible and equal to all . That is a constitutional mandate. Fund the schools fully.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 9:21 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: mpahukoa@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM*

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Ann Pahukoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 9:23 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: toania@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM*

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meleana Oania	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: info@secretshawaii.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM*

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pearl Pahukoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 10:09 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: valerie@isomedia.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Valerie Barnes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill to ensure Hana students can receive an education!

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EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 10:13 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: napua@maui.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn Lono	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB553 for our small rural schools - especially Hana High & Elementary School which is a K-12 school. The WSF has severely diminished funding for our school and our children are receiving a substandard education as a result. Please support this bill. Mahalo, Dawn Lono, P.O. Box 495, Hana, HI 96713

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EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 10:24 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: pamelapcm@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela M Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In Strong Support!

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House Committee on Education
Re: SB 553

Chair Woodson and members of the House Education Committee:

I am Marcia Linville, speaking for the Education Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii in support of SB 553.

While the weighted student formula provided many advantages to the schools, it also had some unintended adverse effects. One of these was the disappearance of school libraries with a corresponding drop in reading scores of 53% incompetence in the 4th grade and a 70% graduation of students on the big island with no library experience. Another was the reduction of staff in small schools to the point where they could no longer fulfill the needs of their students. This was obviously not the intent of the legislation.

SB 553 will rectify this unintended consequence and provide Hawaii's students with the staff needed. I ask your support for SB 553.

Marcia Linville 536-4466.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR

LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 553, S.D. 1

March 22, 2017
2:00 p.m.
Room 309

RELATING TO EDUCATION

Senate Bill No. 553, S.D. 1, amends Chapter 302A, HRS, to authorize the allocation of supplemental categorical funding to remote schools, subject to legislative appropriation. The measure defines remote schools as a high school located at least one-hour drive away from the next nearest public high school or located on the islands of Lanai, Molokai, or Niihau. The measure also indicates that the supplemental categorical funding is in addition to the allocation determined under the weighted student formula. In addition, the measure appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for supplemental categorical funding.

The Department of Budget and Finance offers the following comments on the measure. The measure is unclear as to the starting point in determining the one-hour drive. In addition, the one-hour drive, depending on the time of day and island, could differ. As such, the definition of remote school could be subject to broad interpretation and funding may not be allocated to the schools intended by the bill.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Council Chair
Mike White

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Stacy Crivello

Councilmembers
Alika Atay
Elle Cochran
Don S. Guzman
Riki Hokama
Kelly T. King
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Sandy K. Baz

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

March 21, 2017

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

FROM: Robert Carroll
Council Member

DATE: March 21, 2017

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 553 SD1, RELATING TO EDUCATION; WEIGHTED STUDENT FORMULA; REMOTE SCHOOLS; HANA HIGH AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; SUPPLEMENTAL CATEGORICAL FUNDING; APPROPRIATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I **Strongly Support** this important measure. The purpose of this measure authorizes allocation of supplemental categorical funding to remote schools, subject to legislative appropriation. Appropriate funds.

I **strongly support** this measure for the following reasons:

1. Since the passage of Act 51, in 2004, Sessions Laws of Hawaii, despite equitable distribution of funds, the weighted student formula (WSF), has placed small, "remote schools" at a disadvantage.
2. A recent report, commissioned by the Hawaii Department of Education and completed by the American Institute of Research (AIR) reveals that "small, isolated" (remote) schools do not have adequate funding under WSF and that the formula does not account adequately for the diseconomy of scale associated with small school or for additional costs due to geographic isolation. AIR therefore suggested that "extra support" be provided to schools that are small or isolated, also including a recalculation of WSF.
3. For example, in the case of Hana High and Elementary School, the budgetary shortfall has resulted in the loss of several well qualified teachers and has threatened the school's ability to offer minimum course requirements for students to earn high school diplomas.

March 21, 2017

Page 2

4. If Hana High School is unable to offer its students the requisite courses for graduation, those students will have to endure a nearly forty-mile, two hour drive away, to the next closest public high school, which is King Kekaulike High School, located in Pukalani.
5. By amending Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, with adding the new section: “**Remote schools categorical funding**”, defines a “remote school”. Subject to legislative appropriations, a “remote school” may receive supplemental categorical funding to support additional instructional and support staff. Also, any supplemental categorical funding provided to a remote school shall be in addition to the allocation determined under the WSF.
6. Passing this will commit to the success of all our Keiki.

For the foregoing reasons, I **strongly support** this measure.

RC:dna

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 6:05 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: tulsigreenlee@icloud.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM*

SB553

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulsi Greenlee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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EDNtestimony

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Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 4:03 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: michelematsuo@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB553 on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM

SB553

Submitted on: 3/22/2017

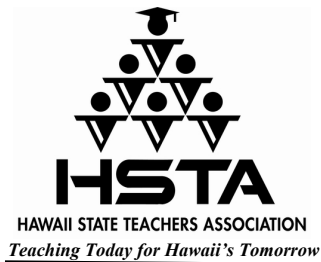
Testimony for EDN on Mar 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michele matsuo	Democratic Party of Hawaii Education Caucus	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele and members of the Education Committee Thank you for this opportunity to testify! My name is Michele Matsuo. I am the Chair of the Democratic Party of Hawaii's Education Caucus and the Ed Caucus strongly supports this measure. Through Hawaii's history, keiki from rural Hawaii have risen to lead. On the other side of the island from Hana, there was once a young student seeking an education named Sun Yat Sen. One of the builders of modern Hawaii came from Puunene. Other rural youth trained in Puunene Ditch to reach prominence. Speaking on behalf of the Education Caucus, I urge you to pass this measure to improve the educational opportunities provided to our rural Keiki. Mahalo nui loa, Michele Matsuo

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1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

Corey Rosenlee
President
Justin Hughey
Vice President
Amy Perruso
Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION

RE: SB 553, SD1 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2017

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Woodson and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports and proposes amendments for SB 553, SD 1**, relating to education.

Since the passage of Act 51 in 2004, Hawai'i has experimented with a weighted student formula to equalize school funding. Intended to make funding for public education more equitable, transparent, and decentralized, WSF had the unintended consequence of limiting academic programming for children in small and rural schools. A recent report commissioned by the Hawai'i Department of Education and completed by the American Institutes of Research reveals that "small or isolated schools do not have adequate funding under WSF and that the formula does not account adequately for diseconomies of scale associated with small schools or for additional costs due to geographic isolation."

Small and geographically remote schools sometimes lack sufficient funds to cover programming above and beyond basic operations. Isolated communities lack the economic breadth available to their urban counterparts, while experiencing distance from essential services and less access to technology. The AIR, therefore, suggested that "extra support" be provided to schools that are small or isolated, including a recalculation of WSF to "accurately account for the differential costs of providing an equal opportunity for all students to achieve, regardless of their individual needs or circumstances (such as geographic location)."

That said, we feel that this measure could be used to initiate a *de facto* pilot program staffing shortfalls experienced by all remote schools. Because student populations at remote schools vary dramatically from year to year, funding for positions at such schools also changes annually, creating turbulence in staff requirements and course offerings. Accordingly, we encourage your committee to amend this measure by reverting the original version of the bill, so that categorical funding and staffing requirements may be applied to Hana High and Elementary and policymakers may determine whether or not these changes should be scaled to other small and rural schools based on the success of the Hana model.

To increase funding equity throughout our state's public school system, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.