

## EDU Testimony

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**From:** Marcia Linville <linvillelege@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 29, 2017 3:05 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Subject:** SB616

Edu Committee  
2017

!-30-

SB 616

Chairman Kidani and members of the committee

I am Marcia Linville speaking for the Education Caucus of the DPH, in support of SB 616. Have been a librarian since 1960, serving in Federal, state, city, and special libraries. Have served as President of the Librarians Association of Hawaii and as Children Section Head for the Hawaii Librarians Association, as Agency Council Head Unit 13, DOE, HGEA, for almost 20 years, served as observer of the BOE since Marion Saunders recruited me in 1970, for the various library associations, HGEA, the Democratic Party, the League of Women Voters, the Education Caucus, the Native Hawaiian Library, and more groups than I can remember. I served as resource teacher in the DOE for three years, and for Early Childhood Education. I have visited libraries in Europe and Asia for People to People, and visited libraries in most of the United States. I was a board member of Hawaii Literacy for over 10 years. I was a founding member of the Education Caucus and have served as its chairman and presently serve as its State Central Committee representative. These are some of my qualifications.

SB 616 is a very important bill for Hawaii's children and the future of Hawaii's economy. The last Smarter Balance test showed that only 47% of Hawaii's 4th graders are competent in reading. Testimony at the BOE stated that over 70% of Hawaii Island students will graduate without ever having a library experience. The last figures I had from Hawaii Literacy gave the illiteracy rate for Hawaii as 20% and the alliteracy rate as 40%. (alliteracy means I can read, but I don't.) The last figures for the number of homes in Hawaii without any books or newspapers was shocking. And the Ed caucus was unable to find out from the DOE how many schools still had functioning school libraries. These facts are not unconnected. Children do not learn to read and love reading from textbooks. Even with the best teachers. People read because they have used it as a tool to give them information they want, enjoyment, escape from intolerable situations, access to other times and places, different ideas. To do that you have to have access to books and magazines. Hawaii's Children today are denied that access.

This was not the vision of those who created the new State of Hawaii's Dept. of Education. They wanted a library within reach of every child. And in the '60s they thought they had provided for it with a library for every school. But then came the time of retrenchment and school librarians were jerked out of libraries to become teachers. They never went back. That was followed by the Weighted Student formula. And the difficulty to retain teachers. Principals felt they needed teachers more desperately than librarians. You could always keep the school library open with a clerk to check out books. Well, turns out that didn't work out so well.

We badly need SB 616. Please give it your support. I am available to answer any questions you may have.

Marcia Linville  
536-4466





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January 29 , 2017

TO:            Honorable Chair Kidani and Members of Education Committee

RE:            SB 616 Relating to Education  
                  Support for hearing on Jan. 30

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support SB 616 as it would require that each public school has a part-time or full-time library. It requires the Department of Education (DOE) to develop a plan to ensure that each school has a part-time or full-time library. The "Smarter Balance" study indicates that only 47 percent of our fourth graders are competent in reading. So we need to encourage more reading. Small schools and rural often suffer under student-weighted formula which often results in the deprivation of libraries. We look forward to the day when every public school student has easy access to a library and help from a qualified librarian.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel  
President

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2017 1:29 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** nredfeather@kohalacenter.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB616 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM

**SB616**

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Redfeather	Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	No

Comments: Library hours on Hawai'i Island continue to decrease creating difficulty for students to access these resources daily. Resources for student research should be part of school's infrastructure.

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**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** Pulermq@gmail.com  
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**SB616**

Submitted on: 1/29/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
RuthMarie Quirk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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I strongly support SB616. Providing a library at every school is so self-evident that there should not even be a need to write it into law. Alas, the need is there. My children have been attending Shafter Elementary School since the fall of 2016, and they have had no access to a full library that entire time. The library is currently being used full time as a class room for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. If we are lucky, our library will be restored to its original use at the beginning of the 2017/2018 school year—provided the portables currently being installed have been taken into service and the school does not further increase its student body.

In the mean time, my older son's classroom is visited by a small cart of books once a week. He reads at a higher grade level than most of the kids in his class, and the tiny cart rarely offer any books of interest to him. My kindergartener has yet to bring a library book home.

Please support this bill so our children can gain a lifelong love for reading, so our children can learn more than mere classroom instruction may teach them, and so our children can discover the excitement of being surrounded by books containing every topic of the world.

Thank you,

Anita Hurlburt  
Fort Shafter

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 29, 2017 1:29 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** mikegolojuch808@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB616 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM\*

**SB616**

Submitted on: 1/29/2017

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Golojuch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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There is an alarming trend in the public schools of not having certificated qualified librarians especially among small elementary schools partially caused by the student weighted formula. The amount of dollars per student has decreased every year and with needed money for a school to survive such as operating costs of electricity, etc. and crucial teachers' position, then support staff such as school librarians are eliminated. Before the student weighted formula, every school was allotted a librarian, counselors, etc. thus ensuring that no matter how small or large the school's student population, there would be support staff to help the teachers and students. From the school librarians' directory located on the Librarians' Corner site, is the data of how many schools have no librarians. So statistically, according to the 2013-2014 directory, there are no librarians' position at 56 out of 264 public schools which represents 21% of all the public schools. In a comparison with the 2011-2012 school librarians' directory, there is a 4% increase of no school librarians' positions.

Why is this a major concern? \*Studies have demonstrated that students from schools with credentialed librarians, enriched resources within the libraries and open access to these opportunities are likely to out perform students without these assets. Also there is a correlation between the reading that the student does inside as well as outside of school that leads to increased comprehension, vocabulary and information acquisition in which the school library is the primary source for obtaining such reading materials pertinent to their learning. Thus, another major problem is the budget of the school library. When a school's budget is solely dependent upon the student weighted formula (no title 1 or other federal money), the amount of the budget leans heavily upon the number of students in the school, so in some cases, librarians have a \$0 budget to purchase books and have up-to-date resources for the students. No matter from what perspective one looks at these difficulties, there is the clear picture that the end game is one in which the student will suffer the consequences of these unresolved dilemmas in the schools.

\* National studies such as these are evidence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph statement that students from schools with credentialed librarians out perform those without.

Strong school libraries build strong students – 2013 :

[http://www.ala.org/aasl/sites/ala.org.aasl/files/content/aaslissues/advocacy/AASL\\_infographic.pdf](http://www.ala.org/aasl/sites/ala.org.aasl/files/content/aaslissues/advocacy/AASL_infographic.pdf)

Full-time school librarians linked to higher student reading scores – 2012:

<http://www.slj.com/2011/09/industry-news/something-to-shout-about-new-research-shows-that-more-librarians-means-higher-reading-scores/>

Want better reading scores? Hire a full-time librarian – 2012:

<http://www.care2.com/causes/want-better-reading-scores-hire-a-full-time-librarian.html#ixzz1pCrjvfnT>

Jenny Nomura  
Secretary for Education Caucus





**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2017 10:53 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** williamrandysmith@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB616 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM\*

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Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William R Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2017 7:19 PM  
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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB616 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM\*

**SB616**

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB616 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM

**SB616**

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear senators, My name is Camila Chaudron, I am a constituent from the Manoa/Makiki area, and I support this measure. Every school should have a library for several reasons: 1) Books are indispensable to learning – all research on language learning, reading and the brain indicates that the more time kids spend reading, the more developed their cortexes become. 2) Further, libraries can provide a quiet, safe, dry space for students to work or study. These days, libraries might also be used as a gathering space for collaboration, sharing and learning together. Thank you for supporting this measure on behalf of all the keiki of Hawai'i. Mahalo.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** mmiyoshi@hawaii.edu  
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Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mari Miyoshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I stand in strong support of this bill

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**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** aprilhail1@gmail.com  
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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
April Hail	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is April Hail, and I am a resident of Manoa and a high school teacher. I have been fortunate enough to have always attended and worked at schools with libraries, and can't imagine a well-rounded school lacking this important resource. A library is not just a collection of books - which is of value in itself, especially for those children who lack stimulating reading material at home - but a space to reflect, study, research, and find refuge from the more chaotic spaces of the rest of the school. A library supports not only students' intellectual growth, but their emotional health as well. I suspect that students in schools currently lacking libraries are those who would benefit the most from these alternative learning spaces.

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