

**HB1092**  
**Relating to**  
**Public School**  
**Innovation**  
**Grants**

# HB1092

Measure Title: RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL INNOVATION GRANTS.  
 Report Title: Public School Innovation Grants Program (\$)  
 Description: Establishes the public school innovation grants program to support school-level innovations; authorizes the board of education to administer the grants program; provides a funding mechanism for these grants; establishes a special fund.  
 Companion: [SB958](#)  
 Package: Governor  
 Current Referral: EDN, FIN  
 Introducer(s): SOUKI (Introduced by request of another party)

<a href="#">Sort by Date</a>	Status	Text
1/23/2017	H	Pending introduction.
1/25/2017	H	Pass First Reading
1/27/2017	H	Referred to EDN, FIN, referral sheet 5
2/2/2017	H	Bill scheduled to be heard by EDN on Wednesday, 02-08-17 2:00PM in House conference room 309.

S = Senate | H = House | D = Data Systems | \$ = Appropriation measure | ConAm = Constitutional Amendment

Some of the above items require Adobe Acrobat Reader. Please visit [Adobe's download page](#) for detailed instructions.

## HB1092

# H.B. NO. 1092

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL INNOVATION GRANTS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1.   The legislature finds that it is a matter of  
2 statewide concern to authorize public school innovation and  
3 systemic school empowerment under the auspices of the Every  
4 Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), authorized as P.L. 114-95.  
5 ESSA offers the State of Hawaii a new opportunity to set a  
6 renewed vision of high expectations and move away from a "one  
7 size fits all" approach to student learning. ESSA provides our  
8 public school system the authority to embrace public school  
9 innovation and systemic school empowerment, within a context of  
10 Hawaii's unique values, beliefs, culture, history and language.

11           The legislature further finds that there is a public  
12 benefit from school-level innovation, beginning with the  
13 development of exemplary leadership and elevation of the  
14 teaching profession. Such exemplary leadership will reflect  
15 school-level and community-based input, recognize visionary  
16 educational practices, and reward achievement of school-based  
17 targets. Teachers will be empowered to adopt educational

1 practices that support global learner outcomes based upon  
2 individual assessments rather than standardized testing.

3 The Board of Education shall, as a matter of statewide  
4 policy, encourage innovation in department of education schools  
5 that support global learner outcomes and recognize cultural  
6 context. All public schools shall be challenged to close  
7 achievement gaps and prepare students to be successful in a new  
8 innovation economy.

9 The purpose of this Act is to provide authority to the  
10 Board of Education to award grants to support school-level  
11 innovations reflecting visionary and aspirational educational  
12 practices that will result in closing student achievement gaps,  
13 and to provide a funding mechanism for these grants.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately  
16 designated and to read as follows:

17 "§302A- Public school innovation grants. (a) There is  
18 established within the department of education, a public school  
19 innovation grants program under the direction of the board of  
20 education. The board shall, on an annual basis:

21 (1) Adopt guiding principles and measures of success to  
22 implement the purposes of the program;

- 1        (2) Develop a request for proposals based upon the guiding  
2                    principles and measures of success, including a  
3                    schedule of proposal submission and award deadlines;
- 4        (3) Ensure that information about the grant program is  
5                    published and broadcast via electronic media sites  
6                    managed by the department of education;
- 7        (4) Create a grant review and awards committee composed of  
8                    eleven members to include the board chairperson, a  
9                    second board member, the student board member, four  
10                   teachers, three principals, and one parent; provided  
11                   that the counties of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii shall  
12                   each be represented by a committee member; and
- 13        (5) Make awards to schools or programs that reflect the  
14                    board's guiding principles and that have the potential  
15                    for knowledge transfer within the public school  
16                    system.
- 17        (c) Beginning with the convening of the 2019 regular  
18 session, the board of education shall submit to the legislature,  
19 an annual report including:
- 20                (1) A list of the schools or programs receiving the grants  
21                    and the amount of each grant;
- 22                (2) A description of the innovations being supported by  
23                    each grant; and

1           (3) The measures of success being used for each grant.

2           §302A-       Public school innovation grants special fund.

3           (a) There is established in the state treasury, the public  
4 school innovation grants special fund, into which shall be  
5 deposited:

6           (1) Fifty per cent of the carryover of funds pursuant to  
7 section 37-41.5(a);

8           (2) Appropriations made by the legislature to the fund;  
9 and

10          (3) All interest and earnings accruing from the investment  
11 of moneys in the fund.

12          (b) Moneys in the public school innovation grants special  
13 fund shall be used to make awards to schools or programs that  
14 reflect the board's guiding principles and that have the  
15 potential for knowledge transfer within the public school  
16 system."

17           SECTION 3.   Section 37-41.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
18 amended by amending subsection (a), to read as follows:

19           “(a) The department of education may retain up to five per  
20 cent of any appropriation, except for appropriations to fund  
21 financing agreements entered into in accordance with chapter  
22 37D, at the close of a fiscal year; provided that the department  
23 shall transfer an amount for innovation grants as directed by

1 the board, for allocation to the public school innovation grants  
2 special fund and the funds retained shall not lapse until June  
3 30 of the first fiscal year of the next fiscal biennium. The  
4 department of education shall submit:

5 (1) A report to the director of finance ninety days after  
6 the close of each fiscal year, which shall be prepared  
7 in the form prescribed by the director of finance and  
8 shall identify the total amount of funds that will  
9 carry over to the next fiscal year; and

10 (2) A copy of this report to the legislature, as well as a  
11 report identifying the carryover of funds on a school-  
12 by-school basis, at least twenty days prior to the  
13 convening of the next regular session of the  
14 legislature."

15 SECTION 4. Section 302A-1101, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
16 is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

17 "(a) There shall be a principal executive department to be  
18 known as the department of education, which shall be headed by a  
19 policy-making board to be known as the board of education. The  
20 board shall have power in accordance with law to formulate  
21 statewide educational policy, adopt student performance  
22 standards and assessment models, monitor school success,  
23 administer the public school innovation grants program, and

H.B. NO. 1092

1 appoint the superintendent of education as the chief executive  
2 officer of the public school system."

3 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii, the sum of \$10,000,000 or so  
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018, for  
6 deposit into the public school innovation grants special fund.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
8 education for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the public school  
10 innovation grants special fund the sum of \$10,000,000 or so much  
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018, for the  
12 public school innovation grants program.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
14 education for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 7. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

17  
18 INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



19 BY REQUEST

JAN 23 2017



# H.B. NO. 1092

**Report Title:**

Public School Innovation Grants Program

**Description:**

Establishes the public school innovation grants program to support school-level innovations; authorizes the board of education to administer the grants program; provides a funding mechanism for these grants; establishes a special fund.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL INNOVATION GRANTS

PURPOSE: Establish the Public School Innovation Grants Special Fund to fund the Public School Innovation Grants Program; amend the Department of Education's (DOE) carryover of funds to provide a funding mechanism for the Public School Innovation Grants; amend the Board of Education's powers to permit it to administer the Public School Innovation Grants Program; provide startup funding for the Public School Innovation Grants Special Fund; and appropriate moneys out of the Public School Innovation Grants Special Fund.

MEANS: Add two new sections to chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) and amend sections 37-41.5 and 302A-1101, HRS.

JUSTIFICATION: The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and renews the nation's commitment to equal opportunities for all students.

The State continues to move forward and improve its public education and its commitment to elementary and secondary school students.

This bill builds on that commitment and directs the Board of Education to:

- adopt measures and principles to ensure success of the program;
- develop a request for proposals;
- ensure information about the program is published online;
- create a grant review and awards committee;

- make awards to schools or programs that reflect the guiding principles; and
- submit an annual report on the grant program.

Impact on the public: Will promote school-level innovation and community-based input in educational practices.

Impact on the department and other agencies: While the total funding for the DOE will remain unchanged, funding for individual schools may vary.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM  
DESIGNATION: All EDN

OTHER AFFECTED  
AGENCIES: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2017.



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

**House Committee on Education**

Wednesday, February 8, 2017  
2:00 p.m.  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 309

**House Bill 1092 Relating to Public School Innovation Grants**

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee:

The Board of Education ("Board") voted to testify in support of House Bill 1092, which would establish the public school innovation grants program to support school-level innovations.

The budget that the Department of Education submitted to the Governor is the budget the Board decided is necessary to adequately support our schools and public education system. However, the Board understands that it is the Governor's responsibility to fit public education into an overall state budget, and the Board supports all funding that will support educational programs at our public schools.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of the Board.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lance A. Mizumoto".

Lance A. Mizumoto  
Chairperson



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

Testimony of  
**Mike McCartney, Chief of Staff**  
Office of the Governor  
Before the

**House Committee on Education**  
Wednesday, February 8, 2017  
2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 309

In consideration of  
**House Bill No. 1092**  
**Relating to Public School Innovation Grants**

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee on Education

The purpose of this bill is to provide authority to the Board of Education to award grants to support school-level innovations reflecting visionary and aspirational educational practices that will result in closing student achievement gaps and to provide a funding mechanism for these grants.

The Office of the Governor strongly supports this measure because it reflects the public's desire to see innovation and creativity in public school classrooms, it furthers the objectives of the Board of Education's and Department of Education's new strategic plan, and it creates a mechanism for schools to fund new programs to help their students succeed.

In a 2016 survey, Hawai'i residents stated that innovation should be a priority in the classroom. Seventy-eight percent of respondents strongly agreed that innovation and creativity should be encouraged in the classroom.<sup>1</sup> In addition, parents, educators and community members from around the state voiced their support for innovation programs at the school level in town hall meetings held last year to develop "Hawai'i's Blueprint for Public Education." A key principle of Hawai'i's Blueprint is a new focus on innovation that envisions the following:

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<sup>1</sup> Resident Opinions on Public Education by Ward Research Incorporated, February 2016, at pages 41 and 44.

The Hawai'i public schools will create and sustain a culture that values innovation and unleashes curiosity and creativity in all learners.<sup>2</sup>

This measure also furthers the objectives of the Hawai'i Board of Education and Hawai'i State Department of Education. Like the Blueprint, the Hawai'i State Department of Education and Board of Education's Strategic Plan for 2017-2020 emphasizes the need for innovation:

**Goal 3, SUCCESSFUL SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT**

The system and culture of public education work to effectively organize financial, human, and community resources in support of student success.

**Objective 1: INNOVATION.** Foster innovation and scaling of effective instructional and operational practices to meet and exceed our educational goals. Meeting the challenges of our students, communities, and world for today and the future requires innovation and creativity in our approaches to teaching, learning, leading, and problem solving. Hawai'i public schools will foster innovation and the expansion of existing public school "Bright Spots," which includes learning from charter schools that were established as innovation labs. Supporting innovation includes making changes based on lessons learned, and providing opportunities for risk taking that are balanced by awareness of the impacts of failure for our students and boundaries of law and collective bargaining agreements.<sup>3</sup>

The bill also establishes a mechanism for the oversight and implementation of the grant process. The Board of Education will:

- Establish criteria used to evaluate grant proposals;
- Make awards that have the potential for knowledge transfer to benefit other schools;
- Approve grant awardees; and
- Oversee the implementation by the DOE Office of Strategy, Innovation and Performance.

By establishing the Innovation Grant program, the Office of the Governor seeks to invest in innovative practices that encourage school-level innovation in DOE schools, public charter schools, and public early learning programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

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<sup>2</sup> Hawai'i's Blueprint for Public Education, January 2017, at page 28.

<sup>3</sup> Hawai'i State Department of Education and Board of Education's Strategic Plan for 2017-2020 at page 10 (italics omitted).

February 8, 2017

## TESTIMONY FOR HB 1092

By Darrel Galera, Chairperson, Governor's ESSA Team,  
Member, State Board of Education  
Contact info: [darrel.galera@gmail.com](mailto:darrel.galera@gmail.com), (808) 778-6378

Dear Chairperson Takumi, Vice Chairperson Har, and the Members of the House Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1092 Relating To Public School Innovation Grants.

Recently, in August 2016, the report "No Time To Lose: How To Build A World Class Education System State By State" was published by the National Conference of State Legislatures. Here are excerpts of the powerful introduction of this thought provoking and compelling report:

"The bad news is most state education systems are falling dangerously behind the world in a number of international comparisons and on our own National Assessment of Educational Progress, leaving the United States overwhelmingly underprepared to succeed in the 21st century economy."

"States have found little success. Recent reforms have underperformed because of silver bullet strategies and piecemeal approaches."

"Meanwhile, high-performing countries implement policies and practices and build comprehensive systems that look drastically different from ours, leading them to the success that has eluded states."

"The good news is, by studying these other high-performing systems, we are discovering what seems to work."

"We have the ability to turn things around."

"We must directly face these challenges and begin immediately to reimagine and re-engineer our own education system."

"State legislators must lead this work. Education is first and foremost a state responsibility. Each state can develop its own strategies for building a modern education system that is globally competitive, similar to the approach taken by other high-performing countries. But we must begin now. There's no time to lose." (1)

One of the high performing systems selected for this report was Finland. Promoting innovation and creativity at the school and in the classroom is a priority in Finland. According to the same report, Finnish scholar Pasi Sahlberg cites teacher autonomy

and “balanced centralization and decentralization” as part of a system that “provides for maximum innovation and creativity at the school level and allows for teachers to be accountable for overall school performance.” (2)

In his award winning book entitled Finnish Lessons 2.0, Sahlberg goes on to describe what is at the heart of school improvement in Finland:

“Experimentation, creativity, and networking were seen as the heart of school improvement, and trust in teachers and schools was endorsed as a key principle of education management. Educational change should provide encouragement and support for risk taking so that creativity will flourish in classrooms and schools, leading to new ideas and innovation.” (3)

And while some may say that you should not try to compare Finland and the U.S., it was the keen insights of Hawaii’s own Education Chair, Roy Takumi, that the National Conference of State Legislatures used to provide wisdom and guidance for other national policy leaders on this question. Takumi states,

*“It’s easy to say that the U.S. isn’t Singapore or Finland so there’s not much to learn from them. Well, 30 years ago, even Finland wasn’t Finland. And some of the things they did such as improving teacher preparation is clearly something we can do irrespective of culture, homogeneity, diversity and so on.”*  
*State Representative Roy Takumi, D- Hawaii (4)*

As so eloquently expressed in No Time To Lose, states have found little success because they have looked for silver bullet strategies. Hawaii is no different.

As we have traveled across the state from Lihue to Lanai, from Kaunakakai to Kealahou, and Kahului to Kahuku, as members of the Governor’s ESSA Team, we have listened carefully and heard from thousands of students, teachers, principals, parents, and community members. Their voices are loud and clear that we need to move away from a one size fits all, silver bullet approach to schooling, and that we need to promote innovation and creativity in our schools and classrooms. This affirms the results of a statewide Ward Research Public Education Survey in February 2016 where 78% of respondents, agreed strongly that innovation and creativity should be encouraged in the classroom. Our success as a state depends on preparing our students to be successful in an innovation driven economy. Our students must be skilled as innovators, creators, and problem solvers to be successful in this 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Both our Education Blueprint and our BOE/DOE Strategic Plan call for policies that support and encourage innovation.

*“The Hawaii public schools will create and sustain a culture that values innovation and unleashes curiosity*



*and creativity in all learners.*

Hawaii's Blueprint for Public Education, January 2017

*Goal 3, Objective 1: INNOVATION. Foster innovation and scaling of effective instructional and operational practices to meet and exceed our educational goals. Meeting the challenges of our students, communities, and world for today and the future requires innovation and creativity in our approaches to teaching, learning, leading, and problem solving. Hawai'i public schools will foster innovation and the expansion of existing public school "Bright Spots," which includes learning from charter schools that were established as innovation labs.*

Joint Hawaii BOE/DOE Strategic Plan approved December 6, 2016

HB 1092 provides an excellent way to promote innovation into a system that has unintentionally discouraged innovation and creativity as a result of mandated curriculum, teacher evaluation, and testing. The passage of HB 1092 will clearly communicate to educators, students, and parents - that similar to high performing systems like Finland - creativity and innovation will be at the heart of schooling in Hawaii.

But we must begin now. There's no time to lose.

#### Endnotes

1. *"No Time To Lose: How To Build A World Class Education System State By State"*, National Conference of State Legislatures, August 2016, p 3
2. *"No Time To Lose: How To Build A World Class Education System State By State"*, National Conference of State Legislatures, August 2016, p 18
3. Pasi Sahlberg, *Finnish Lessons 2.0*, Teachers College Press, New York, 2015, p. 203
4. *"No Time To Lose: How To Build A World Class Education System State By State"*, National Conference of State Legislatures, August 2016, p 7

*"What I believe is that when we take the handcuffs off, we'll unleash a whole flood of **innovation** and **ingenuity** classroom by classroom, state by state, that will benefit children."*

Senator Lamar Alexander, Chairperson of U.S. Senate Education Committee and the "architect" of ESSA, floor speech advocating for the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act





**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**Executive Office on Early Learning**  
1390 Miller Street, Room 303  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 7, 2017

**TO:** Representative Roy Takumi, Chair  
Representative Sharon Har, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Education

**FROM:** Lauren Moriguchi, Director  
Executive Office on Early Learning

**SUBJECT: HB 1092 – RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL INNOVATION GRANTS**  
**Hearing Date:** February 8, 2017  
**Time:** 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Conference Room 309

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes the public school innovation grants program to support school-level innovations; authorizes the board of education to administer the grants program; provides a funding mechanism for these grants; establishes a special fund.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION:** The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) **supports** HB 1092.

Significant research affirms that the experiences children have, and the environments in which they develop during the earliest years can have a lasting impact on their later success in school and life. When provided with the opportunity for high quality early childhood education, children are more likely to succeed in kindergarten and beyond and grow into capable adults who contribute positively to the larger community. **High-quality** early childhood programs can improve academic achievement, reduce crime and delinquency, and enhance future labor market success. Research has also shown that these programs can yield returns to society ranging from [\\$2 to \\$17 for every dollar spent](#).

There are 17,500 four-year old children in Hawaii and research conducted by UH Center on the Family reflects that 40% of these children do not attend preschool. While the EOEL Public Pre-Kindergarten Program is funded to provide a high-quality early learning program to 420 four-year-old children in the year before they attend kindergarten, this is only 2.4% of the four-year-old population. The public school innovation grants may be used to increase access to these much needed high-quality early learning programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

## EDNtestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 2, 2017 3:51 PM  
**To:** EDNtestimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1092 on Feb 8, 2017 14:00PM\*

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

### **HB1092**

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 8, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## EDNtestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 10:39 PM  
**To:** EDNtestimony  
**Cc:** jensen.ball@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1092 on Feb 8, 2017 14:00PM

### HB1092

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 8, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jensen Ball	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in favor of HB 1092, relating to Public School Innovation Grants. As a former School Technology Coordinator, I was always on the lookout for opportunities to provide new and innovative ways for student learning at my school. Receiving various grant funding gave my school the possibility of exploring student learning in innovative and creative ways that we normally would not be able to fund within our school budget. Now as a District Support Staff member, I am very fortunate to visit many schools and see first hand the great innovative and creative opportunities and programs they provide their students. I also have seen many programs and resources I wish our schools had if only they had funding available. Innovation grant funding would provide schools the possibility to expand their current practices to the next level or explore new opportunities, especially for those schools that would not have the chance to otherwise if left to funding on their own. Schools with innovative learning opportunities and creative programs provide students with personalized learning and building skills along with confidence to prepare students for college, career and life readiness. This important legislation will truly provide the needed resources for our schools to pursue innovative and creative learning opportunities for our students. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 1092.

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**Catherine H. Payne**  
**98-715 Iho Place #1404**  
**Aiea, HI 96701**  
**[catherinepaynehawaii@gmail.com](mailto:catherinepaynehawaii@gmail.com)**  
**808-223-3146**

February 6, 2016

**Testimony in Support of HB 1092**  
**Relating to Public School Innovation Grants**

To: Roy Takumi, House Education Committee Chair  
Sharon Har, House Education Committee Vice Chair  
Members of the House Education Committee

Thank you for considering my testimony in support of HB 1092.

I have been part of public education in Hawaii since the mid 1970's, and although I retired in 2010, I am still active both as a volunteer with the Public Charter School Commission and as an educational consultant helping in a few of our elementary schools. I also served as a member of Governor Ige's ESSA team and helped develop the blueprint for public education. Public education is at a critical moment, and it is important for us to take actions that will send a tangible message of supportive change to our schools.

We have worked over the last year to build a collaborative long-term vision that will move decisions that affect students and learning as close to the schools as possible. Allowing individual schools and complexes to craft innovative ideas that address the needs of the students in their communities will be a significant step toward accomplishing this vision.

We know that collaboration and innovation skills are key to the future success of individual students and of our state. Educators understand that they need to change how they manage and deliver instruction and are seeking support for the changes that must occur. The Innovation Grants will be a giant step toward a new and exciting era for public education in Hawaii.

I look forward to working with you as we continue to support our public schools.



## EDNtestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 9:21 PM  
**To:** EDNtestimony  
**Cc:** csantoma@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1092 on Feb 8, 2017 14:00PM

### **HB1092**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 8, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chris Santomauro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is Chris Santomauro and I am an educator in the Hawaii DOE. I am in favor of HB 1092, Relating to Public School Innovation Grants. This is important legislation to provide needed resources for students, teachers, principals, and schools to pursue innovative and creative opportunities to increase student learning. We are far too often mandated to teach students scripted curriculum that sucks the joy out of teaching. At a recent professional development for educators, Dr. Mary Howard noted that teachers need to "show fidelity to students, not to curriculum." Allowing for teachers and students to engage in high quality, innovative means of education can only enrich our students' lives and improve our schools. Please support this bill.

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## EDNtestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 2:55 PM  
**To:** EDNtestimony  
**Cc:** shareenmurayama@me.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1092 on Feb 8, 2017 14:00PM

### **HB1092**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for EDN on Feb 8, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shareen Murayama	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am definitely IN FAVOR of HB 1092, relating to Public School Innovation Grants. This is important legislation to provide needed resources for students, teachers, principals, and schools to pursue innovative and creative opportunities to increase student learning.

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Chairman Roy M. Takumi  
Vice Chair Sharon E. Har  
Members of the Education Committee  
Wednesday, February 8, 2017  
2:00pm  
Room 309

### **Support of HB 1092 Relating to Public School Innovation Grants**

Aloha! My name is Matthew Darrah and I'm a Senior at Kalaheo High School as well as Kalaheo's student body president and the Sergeant-At-Arms for the Hawaii State Student Council. As a student, I'm in strong support of HB 1092 because a bill like this can have a strong positive impact on public schools in Hawaii.

An Innovation Grant Program would not only encourage schools to take new kinds of steps for a prosperous future, it would incentivise such actions. Schools that are already taking innovative steps in innovation need to be recognized so other schools have the opportunity to follow suit. Kainalu Elementary, for example, is taking steps this year to reduce the amount of trash produced from school lunches by compacting, composting, and recycling. Steps like this should be recognized across the state, and schools like Kainalu need to be rewarded for taking the initiative.

As a student leader, it's great to see good ideas that originated in one school be implemented in another, in the Hawaii State Student Council, we have the 'Good Idea Exchange' where students talk about things that went well for their school to prompt possible events and activities for other schools. This kind of program would bring idea exchange from the peer-to-peer level to the school-to-school level.

Lastly, this bill will encourage schools to try new things and mix up the standard process at the very least. This will encourage administrators to be more welcoming towards new ideas, be it in, communication, curriculum, or staff/student life. This bill will open the doors for more creative thinking and rewards the courageous for doing so.

I hope the committee feels as strongly about this bill as I do and passes HB 1092.

Matthew Darrah  
Kalaheo High School

George Couros, author of The Innovator's Mindset, wrote: "Innovation in education should not be a luxury, but is now a necessity." Couros lists 8 characteristics of the Innovator's Mindset:

1. empathetic
2. problem finders
3. risk-takers
4. networked
5. observant
6. creators
7. resilient
8. reflective

Really, innovation is about the way we think. It's about doing more than engaging students in learning; it's about empowering them to embrace challenge, to see "failure" as part of the learning process, to look for problems they want to solve. Our keiki deserve schools where "innovation" is the keystone of the work. They deserve leaders who can envision and inspire innovation in their schools.

Please support HB 1092, relating to Public School Innovation Grants. This is important legislation is needed to provide resources for students, teachers, principals, and schools to pursue innovative and creative opportunities to increase student learning.

Thank you.

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