



TECHNET
THE VOICE OF THE
INNOVATION ECONOMY

California and the Southwest
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March 12, 2018

**Written Testimony of TechNet
Presented for the Record to
Senate Committee on Education
March 12, 2018**

Chair Person Kidani, Vice Chair Kaiali'i Kahele and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

RE: **HB 1882, Relating to Education**

I on behalf of TechNet and our member companies, I write in **support** of **HB 1882**, which appropriates funds for laptop or tablet computers to be used by teachers and students for digital teaching and learning to ensure that students in public schools have fair access to technology.

TechNet is the bipartisan policy and political network of CEOs and senior executives that promotes the innovation economy. Our membership includes dynamic start-ups to the most iconic companies on the planet. I am pleased to have this opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 1882.

HB1882 will help provide needed resources to ensure that Hawaii students can fulfill their potential and succeed in every avenue of life. Technology is an integral and essential component of 21st century learning. It has been demonstrated to engage students and promote academic success.

With global economic leadership at stake, education and workforce development are more critical than ever. TechNet's member companies rely on a strong pipeline of talent with the problem-solving, communication, collaboration, and computer literacy skills required in our global, interconnected and technology-driven economy.

Our companies have long collaborated with educators, policymakers and other stakeholders to promote the adoption of digital learning resources and technology integration because we believe it can fundamentally transform education, improve student outcomes and enable college and career readiness. ***It is for that reason that we believe HB 1882 is an important and critical investment for the State of Hawaii to make, especially when taking into account that the last dedicated funding for this effort was 5 years ago.***

House Bill 1882 ensures that Hawaii's school children are not missing out on the promise of digital learning content and tools. For these reasons, TechNet respectfully requests your support on the measure. I can be reached at lbennett@technet.org should have any questions regarding our support of this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Bennett".

Executive Director

HB-1882-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 10:47:43 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/12/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Freddie Wheeler Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Senate Committee on Education

March 12, 2018 2:45 PM

Conference Room 229

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony on HB 1882 HD1 (In Support)

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kahele, and members of the Senate Committee on Education,

My name is Freddie E. Wheeler Jr., a recent graduate from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa with a master's degree in mechanical engineering. I am writing in support of this bill. Technology is an ever-increasing aspect of our daily lives, and this bill is making an investment in the students of Hawai'i to create the next generation of technologically savvy people.

A small concern I have with the bill as written is that there is no explicit mention of any professional development opportunities that will be provided by this bill to assist teachers in successfully integrating the technology into their classrooms and curriculums.

My hope is that, if this bill passes, children are exposed to technology and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) opportunities at an earlier age, inspiring the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs. This will be an investment in Hawai'i's future, creating the intellectual capital that can be used to advance various technology and engineering sectors of our state's economy.

Mahalo for considering my testimony,

Freddie E. Wheeler Jr.

Brandon G. Young
980 Maunawili Rd.
Kailua, HI 96734
Phone: (808) 351-6676
Email: young.brandon4@gmail.com

Hearing Date: Monday, March 12, 2018

Time: 2:45 p.m.

Re: Support of HB 1882

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele and Senate Education Committee Members,

My name is Brandon Young and I am a son of an English teacher at Aiea High School. My mother, Virginia Young, is the Department Chair of the English department and has taught at Aiea High School for 14 years now. I am writing this testimony in support of HB 1882 which would provide for funding for more technology in the classrooms in public education.

I would hope that you would take this testimony into consideration when deciding on whether or not to pass this bill or not. I want to thank you for taking the time to hear this measure and would ask you to support the measure. We need more access to technology in the classrooms in our public education system. The children in our public educational system whom access to technology in the classroom will have a greater opportunity to succeed in life. This will help them to want to attend higher education here in Hawaii. This will then lead to better citizens with high paying jobs and will help to shape the young leaders of our community of tomorrow. The access to technology may allow them to attend law school and to become a representative of this state one day.

In the private sector, most children are provided with either a laptop or other portable computer devices. However, this is not the case in the public education sector. Many children live in economic situations where their parents can not afford to provide personal computers in the home. This means that the school is the only place where this child will have interaction with technology of any kind. I would ask you to support this measure that there will be more funding so that children can have have access to technology. I thank you again for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Brandon Young

HB-1882-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 2:48:19 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/12/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Madisen Endo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: