



Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Time: 10:45 a.m.

Date: February 28, 2018 Where: State Capitol Room 211

TESTIMONY By Kaʻanoʻi Walk Kamehameha Schools

RE: SB 2083, Relating to After-School Programs

E ka Luna Hoʻomalu Dela Cruz, ka Hope Luna Hoʻomalu Keith-Agaran, a me nā Lālā o ke Kōmike o nā Loaʻa a me nā Hoʻolilo o ka ʻAha Kenekoa, aloha! My name is Kaʻanoʻi Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Kūamahi Community Education Division of Kamehameha Schools.

We are writing to <u>support</u> SB 2083, relating to after-school programs, which appropriates funds for after-school programs at Kalaniana'ole Elementary and Intermediate School, Kapa'a Middle School, Konawaena Middle School, and Waimea Canyon Middle School. The purpose of this measure is to fund after-school programs at intermediate and middles schools designated as Title I schools pursuant to the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended, that have a high number of Native Hawaiian students and that currently do not receive state or federal funding for after-school programs.

Kamehameha Schools advocates for and supports the achievement of Hawai'i's Native Hawaiian public school students, the largest ethnic population in public education. Quality after-school programming for intermediate and middle school students is critical to their development. Not only does it provide a safe place for these students, it also supports their academic achievement when aligned to in-school curriciulum. Please advance this measure.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an organization striving to advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership.

'A'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia. No task is too large when we all work together! Mahalo nui.