

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RODERICK K. BECKER
Comptroller

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Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY OF
RODERICK K. BECKER, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES ON
EDUCATION
AND
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ON
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2018
2:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

S.B. 2382

RELATING TO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

Chair Kidani, Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Ruderman, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 2382.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) appreciates the intent of this measure making amendments to Section 302D-35, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) and provides the following comments for the Committees' consideration.

Section 302D-35, HRS currently requires departments considering closure of facilities to consider making all or portions of the facility available to charter schools and early learning programs and to provide notice to the Superintendent and State Charter School Commission identifying suitable unused facilities that may be appropriate for public charter schools and early learning programs.

Additionally, last year the State Public Charter School Commission contacted all state departments requesting identification of suitable facilities under Section 302D-35. To date, no

suitable vacant facilities have been identified. Since facility availability generally does not change very often, high frequency outreach may not necessarily result in increased reporting of suitable facilities.

DAGS recommends that the language be revised to require surveys and reporting on a biennial basis rather than a semi-annual basis. Also, as a point of clarification, we understand this measure to require DAGS to gather, compile, and report information from other departments. If the intent of the measure is to require DAGS to conduct a physical survey of department facilities, we estimate that an appropriation of two additional positions and \$350,000 annually for salaries, travel, and related costs is needed. We estimate that two staff working full-time on this process could complete the inspection and validation process in about six months.

Thank you for your consideration of our request and for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

FOR: SB 2382 Relating to Public Charter Schools
DATE: February 9, 2018
TIME: 2:45 P.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Education and Committee on Government Operations
ROOM: Conference Room 229
FROM: Sione Thompson, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Kidani, Chair Kim, and members of the Committees:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 2382**, which provides a semi-annual survey of unused state facilities and under-utilized schools of the Department of Education and an inventory of these unused and under-utilized facilities from the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS).

The Commission appreciates the Legislature’s support and efforts of DAGS in addressing the ongoing charter school facilities issue. The Commission looks forward to collaborating with these committees, DAGS, and public charter schools in moving this legislation forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committee on Education and Government Operations

Time: 2:45 p.m.

Date: February 9, 2018

Where: State Capitol Room 229

TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk

Kamehameha Schools

RE: **SB 2382, Relating to Public Charter Schools**

E ka Luna Ho'omalu Kidani a me Kim, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalu Kahele a me Ruderman, a me nā Lālā Kenekoa o kēia mau Kōmike o ka 'Aha Kenekoa, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Kūamahi Community Education Division of Kamehameha Schools.

We are writing to **support** SB 2382, relating to public charter schools, which requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to conduct semi-annual surveys of all departments concerning any unused facilities that may be used by public charter schools and maintain an inventory of all such unused facilities. This measure also requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide semi-annual reports on the inventory of potentially useable and unused department facilities to the state public charter school commission. This measure is an important step toward alleviating ongoing facilities challenges for many public charter schools and early learning programs that are affiliated with public charter schools.

Kamehameha Schools advocates for and supports the achievement of Hawai'i's Native Hawaiian public school students. Through our work with Hawaiian-focused public charter schools, we hope to significantly impact more children and their families through education. We believe that Hawaiian-focused charter schools provide quality educational choices for all families and ultimately enhance both academic achievement and engagement for students.

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

SB-2382

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 10:41:11 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/9/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Ho`omana Pono, LLC	Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-2382

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 2:02:32 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/9/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2382

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 8:56:17 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/9/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl		Comments	No

Comments:

All students should have facilities that are safe and equitable.

SB-2382

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 8:18:30 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/9/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Yoshimori-Yamamoto		Support	No

Comments:

The state has ignored it's obligations to support public charter schools for too long.

Many incorrectly believe that charter schools are supported by the DOE and their facilities offices for repair and maintenance. Charter schools are on their own! No support whatsoever! Charter schools are doing a lot of good things for the children of Hawaii and gives families a choice in their child's education instead of only having to go to their district school or pay for private school!

The state has an obligation to find facilities and assist with repair and maintenance via DAGS and the BOE since the DOE is not involved. Facilities support could be conditional upon educational standards like WASC accreditation to ensure quality educational programs are promoted by the state.

Something needs to be done before charter schools are forced to close due to lack of facilities and maintenance of those facilities!