



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

LATE

Date: 02/21/2018

Time: 10:08 AM

Location: 211

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2393 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the department of education to create a comprehensive plan to establish alternative learning centers in each school complex area in the State. Requires the department of education to submit the plan to the legislature prior to the regular session of 2019.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 2393 and respectfully suggests amendments in the language to provide for the following:

- 1) A comprehensive needs assessment be conducted to determine the statewide need for essential alternative learning schools throughout Hawaii.
- 2) A cost analysis, including but not limited to anticipated budget, personnel, facility needs for each identified essential alternative learning school.
- 3) A projected implementation plan for identified essential alternative learning schools.
- 4) An appropriation of \$200K to allow the Department to contract for this project study.

Further, the Department proposes to submit an update report to the 2018-2019 Legislature and a final report to the 2019-2020 Legislature, accompanied by any budget requests or legislation, as necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2393.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.

LATE

SB-2393

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 2:17:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Mahi	Testifying for Hawaii Dept of Education	Support	No

Comments:

As Complex Area Superintendent of the Nanakuli-Waianae Complex Area, I am in strong support of Bill 2393 to establish an alternative learning center (ALC) in each complex area based on the needs of the students. One of our driving goals is to break the cycle of poverty and disrupt the prison pipeline for our community. We have a strong belief that comprehensive support services and a learning environment that provides instruction that is engaging, culturally relevant and academically rigorous will enable our students to be successful.

It is essential that the complex areas are included in the planning process to develop and design the learning centers as we best understand the needs of the students and community. We believe in an inclusive educational program which allows all students who feel that the learning environment of the ALC meets their academic and social/emotional needs to attend.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill and to share our commitment to assist in the development of the comprehensive plan.



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

RE: SB 2393 - RELATING TO EDUCATION



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports SB 2393**, relating to education.

Learning transforms lives. Too often, when behavioral problems reach the level of the juvenile justice system, children fail to receive the educational experiences that could lead them away from a life of crime. According to data from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Hawai'i had one of the three highest rates of incarcerated children with a minority ethnic background as of 2014.

Alternative learning centers provide specialized services to meet the unique needs of at-risk youth. Such services include trauma treatment, life-skills training, vocational education, mental health treatment, medical services, substance abuse intervention, and mentorship programs. With strategic partners from the community, alternative learning centers offer troubled children a long-term, individualized, and coordinated continuum of care that can become the foundation for a productive and prosperous future.

To help at-risk children obtain their fullest potential and disrupt our state's school-to-prison pipeline, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

LATE

SB-2393

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 9:57:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: