



LATE

February 10, 2017

To: Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair
Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Member
Honorable Will Espero, Member
Honorable Gil Riviere, Member
Senate Committee on Education
Senate Committee on Education

From: Jeannine Souki, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network

Re: **SB 466 - Relating to the per-pupil funding system for public charter schools**
Conference Room 229 – Hawaii State Capitol – Feb. 13, 2017, 2:45 P.M.

On behalf of the Hawaii Public Charter School Network (HPCSN), we respectfully submit our support for [HB 466](#) (OHA Administrative & Legislative Package), relating to the per-pupil funding system for public charter schools. This bill requires the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a two-year study on the non-facility general fund per-pupil funding system for public charter schools, to determine whether the system fulfills its statutory purpose of equalizing operational funding among the State's public schools.

This intent for this bill is to inform that public charter schools receive an equitable share of public education funds within the state.

HPCSN works to support Hawaii's public charter schools and to be a voice for children and families that seek choice in an independent public school setting. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and respectfully urges your passage of this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:28 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: noalanio@ymail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB466 on Feb 13, 2017 14:45PM

SB466

Submitted on: 2/13/2017
Testimony for EDU on Feb 13, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noalani Nakasone	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB466 which would require the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on whether the public charter school per-pupil funding system actually provides equal operational funding to public charter schools. Hawai'i's charter schools are intended to cut red tape, provide choices, and be innovative in education. Charter school laws have provided Hawaiian cultural and language education leaders the opportunity to design and operate schools more responsive and attuned to the needs of Hawaiian families. However, long-standing concerns suggest that the full potential of these schools may be inhibited by funding inequities and challenges. A study will provide the Legislature with critical information on whether per-pupil funding parity exists. I urge the committee to PASS this bill. Mahalo, Noalani Nakasone .

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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EDU Testimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:27 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: shane.nelsen@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB466 on Feb 13, 2017 14:45PM*

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Categories: Green Category

SB466

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for EDU on Feb 13, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shane Nelsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 2:49 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: dkapua@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB466 on Feb 13, 2017 14:45PM

SB466

Submitted on: 2/13/2017
 Testimony for EDU on Feb 13, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha Senate Education Chair Kidani and committee members, I stand in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 466 RELATING TO THE PER-PUPIL FUNDING SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS. Requires the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on the non-facility general fund per-pupil funding system for public charter schools, to determine whether the system fulfills its statutory purpose of equalizing operational funding among the State's public schools. It seems that while the Legislature allowed for Public Charter Schools in Hawaii, it failed to consider all the inherent and unknown expenses for the schools to thrive and succeed. PCS existence was one thing, but the Legislature subsequently imposed additional restrictions, limitations and conditions while withholding basic resources afforded to department schools. Every parent should be afforded the opportunity to choose the best public educational setting (DOE, PCS, Alternative schools) that will fulfill their child's holistic educational needs; with its respective, fair and equitable, funding. We're only asking for justice, since we no longer believe that the DOE provides what our children need. For many years, PCS supporters, PCS employees (admin, faculty & staff), parents and students have presented themselves and/or their testimony requesting "parity" in student funding to the Legislature. The disparity is certainly apparent; hopefully, this Study (and it's Report) will provide all the intricate information that the PCS community have been asking for. Mahalo nui loa for allowing my manao to be considered. Please PASS SB 466 out of your committee. Me ke aloha, Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai, Proud Halau Ku Mana makua and PCS Supporter Concerned Waianae community member p.s. Yes, my children catch the City Bus from Waianae to Makiki. Their school day is easily 12 hours plus. But for us, it's well worth it!

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EDU Testimony

From: Malia Chun <maliac@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 2:44 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Subject: Please PASS SB466

Aloha kākou,

I strongly SUPPORT SB466 which would require the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on whether the public charter school per-pupil funding system actually provides equal operational funding to public charter schools.

My children have been a part of the Hawai'i Public Charter School system for over 8 years. One of the biggest challenges that charter schools face is adequate funding, which seems to always fall far below our DOE School counterparts. In order for our keiki to have adequate access to a quality education, bill like SB466 must be passed. Charter school laws have provided Hawaiian cultural and language education leaders the opportunity to design and operate schools more responsive and attuned to the needs of Hawaiian families. However, long-standing concerns suggest that the full potential of these schools may be inhibited by funding inequities and challenges.

A study will provide the Legislature with critical information on whether per-pupil funding parity exists. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration,

Malia Chun
Mother, Educator