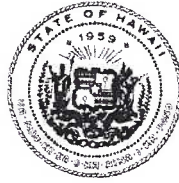


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



PANKAJ BHANOT
DIRECTOR

CATHY BETTS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96808

March 19, 2018

TO: The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **SCR 13/SR 9 - RELATING TO AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM WORKING GROUP
AND ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Hearing: Monday, March 19, 2018, 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

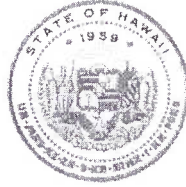
DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this resolution and provides comments.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to request the Department of Education (DOE) to convene a working group to review afterschool programs in Hawaii's public schools and to establish an afterschool program advisory council.

Through a partnership agreement established in 2006, DHS provides the DOE Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to administer the Uniting Peer Learning, Integrating New Knowledge (UPLINK) Program, an existing after-school program for students in grades 6, 7 and 8. The UPLINK Program provides middle and intermediate school students academic and remediation support and optional high interest activities that focus on developing positive character, in a safe and nurturing environment during the immediate hours after school from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.

DHS will participate in the requested working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES
1010 Richards Street, Suite 314
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

March 19, 2018

TO: The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Merton Chinen, Executive Director

SUBJECT: **SCR 13 / SR 9 – REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS IN HAWAII'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TO ESTABLISH AN AFTERSHCOOL PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

Hearing: Monday, March 19, 2018, 2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

OFFICE'S POSITION: The Office of Youth Services (OYS) provides comments and respectfully defers to the Department of Education (DOE) on its feasibility of its implementation and resources required.

After-school and out-of-school services can provide extended learning opportunities to help students meet and exceed academic standards and at the same time develop, social, personal, civic and vocational and career skills. In addition, it provides the youth with a safe and positive environment during the after school hours when juvenile crime and risky behavior rates are at their peak and when many parents are at work.

There are several common denominators in the lives of our at-risk youth, including but not limited to: a lack of connectedness, a sense of not belonging, and failure in school. These factors all lead to poor decision making – which is evidenced by the fact that middle school aged children represent nearly ½ of all first time juvenile arrests in our state. Providing quality after school programming for all students will address those very issues – relationships, connections and school engagement will positively impact school attendance and success.

More importantly, after-school and out-of-school programs can supplement the school day by offering much-needed activities like college and career counseling and character education, and also provide activities that are decreasingly available in schools, such as art, physical education, music, and civics. They also offer a unique opportunity to provide less traditional learning experiences such as hand-on learning, group projects, and service learning.

OYS represented the Department of Human Services on the working group that was established by HCR 137, S.D. 2, 2016 Regular Session, and produced the report to the legislature for the 2017 session.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this measure is to convene a working group to review after-school programs in Hawaii's public and to establish an afterschool program advisory council, with the DOE Superintendent, or its designee, as the chairperson.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Committee on Education
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

March 19, 2018

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele, and Members of the Committee,

We support SCR 13/SR 9 requesting the Department of Education (DOE) to convene a working group to review afterschool programs in Hawai'i public schools and to establish an afterschool program advisory council.

Hui for Excellence in Education, or "HE'E," promotes a child-centered and strength-based public education system in which families, communities and schools are valued and empowered to help every student succeed. HE'E works to bring diverse stakeholders together to harness collective energy, share resources, and identify opportunities for progressive action in education.

One issue that is of high priority to Coalition members is school safety, including bullying, addressing students at-risk, and looking for ways to keep children in school. Especially in the middle and intermediate schools years, a young teen's focus can wander if they are not engaged in structured activities. Afterschool programs can provide this structure as well as be a safe place where teens can build confidence. Studies show that afterschool programs can contribute to higher grades and test scores, better attendance records, lower drop out rates and an increase in positive attitudes and behaviors.¹ After school programs can also have benefits to families including better connection between parents, children and communities, and improved relationships between parents and children.²

The Coalition supports this resolution because of the success of the previous House Concurrent Resolution 137, S.D. 2 Regular Session of 2016, which focused on middle school afterschool programs. Through the recommendations of that resolution, tremendous progress has been made in making afterschool programs more efficient and effective. In particular, the newly established DOE Community Engagement Office serves as a central hub for afterschool and out of school programs, coordinating, overseeing and making sure that quality and accountability is maintained. We would like to see the working group continue its work to look at the K-12 continuum of afterschool programs with a specific look at quality.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support of these bills represents a 75% consensus or more of our voting membership.

Sincerely,
Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

¹ Decker, L. E., et al. (2000). *Engaging families & communities, pathways to educational success*. Boca Raton, FL: National Community Educational Association, Florida Atlantic University.

² Harris, E. & Wimer, C. (2004, April). *Engaging with families in out-of-school time learning, No. 4*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Family Research Project.

Academy 21
After-School All-Stars Hawaii
Alliance for Place Based Learning
*Castle Complex Community Council
*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS
Coalition for Children with Special Needs
*Faith Action for Community Equity
Fresh Leadership LLC
Girl Scouts Hawaii
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance
*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
*Hawai'i Charter School Network
*Hawai'i Children's Action Network
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
* Hawai'i State PTSA
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
Head Start Collaboration Office
It's All About Kids
*INPEACE
Joint Venture Education Forum
Junior Achievement of Hawaii
Kamehameha Schools
Kanu Hawai'i
*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council
Keiki to Career Kaua'i
Kupu A'e
*Leaders for the Next Generation
Learning First
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

*Native Hawaiian Education Council
Our Public School
*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning
*Parents and Children Together
*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i
Punahou School PUEO Program
*Teach for America
The Learning Coalition
US PACOM
University of Hawai'i College of Education
YMCA of Honolulu

Voting Members () Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/18/2018 5:33:42 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/19/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:



TO: Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO of Parents And Children Together (PACT)

DATE/LOCATION: Monday, March 19, 2018; 2:45 a.m., Conference Room 229

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR 13 REQUESTING THE DOE TO COVENE A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

We support SCR 13– Requesting the Department of Education to convene a working group to review afterschool programs in Hawaii's public schools and to establish an afterschool advisory council. As an organization who provides afterschool programs to youth in our community, we would welcome the opportunity to engage in these critical discussions and be a part of the ongoing solutions for positive out of school time programs for our youth. Afterschool programs are needed now more than ever and it is essential that our community work collaboratively to support our working families and youth.

- Over 54,000 students are currently enrolled in afterschool programs
- More than 59,000 students are waiting for an available afterschool program
- More than 36,000 students are alone and unsupervised after school

Participation in afterschool programs provide a wide range of immediate and long-term benefits, that include improved academic performance, reduced risky behavior, reduced drug use, improved health, and overall better social and economic well-being. It is particularly important to have high-quality programs that involve students in positive and productive after school activities. During the middle school years, youth are increasingly responsible for caring for themselves and need healthy and productive programs to participate in during the afterschool hours; keeping them safe, engaged and out of trouble.

For Hawaii's 75% of working families with children, a majority agree that having after school programs allows them to keep their jobs and their peace of mind knowing that their children are cared for in an afterschool program. These programs ensure that students are kept in a safe

environment, while being engaged in fun and educational activities that allows them to practice healthy values. It is of crucial importance that we invest in programs that dedicate their services to ensure a safe and happy environment for the growth and development of our keiki. Allowing our children to express themselves in creative programs instills healthy values that they will carry with them for generations to come. Many students take comfort in their schools as their second homes, and it would be beneficial to continue to engage in discussions about providing afterschool programs in all of our public schools.

Parents And Children Together is just one of the many organizations who offer prevention and intervention programs to ensure healthy environments for children and families in Hawaii. It takes more than just resources alone to carry out success in this work, but the continuous support of community members and leaders who become role models for the future generations. This working group and advisory council would play a critical role in examining and recommending effective and collaborative strategies that will benefit current and future beneficiaries of afterschool programs. Our children are our future.

Founded in 1968, Parents And Children Together (PACT) is one of Hawaii's not-for-profit organizations providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to families in need. Assisting more than 18,000 people across the state annually, PACT helps families identify, address and successfully resolve challenges through its 16 programs. Among its services are: early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, and community building programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SCR 13**, please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org if you have any questions.