



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

Date: 03/28/2018
Time: 02:50 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

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

Title of Resolution: SCR 194 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS, INCLUDING PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENTS, HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AND FOOD SERVICE.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

Specific to the intent to provide Charter Schools access to meals, the Department of Education (Department) agrees with the intent of SCR 194. However, while we seek to partner with Charter Schools in various opportunities, the Department is not and should not be responsible for providing equitable facilities to Charter Schools.

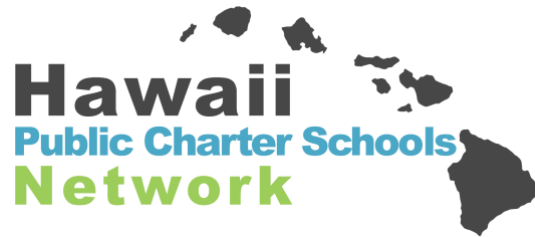
The mission of the Department's School Food Service Branch is to feed our keiki with healthy, nutritious, fresh food to achieve academic success. The Department agrees that no student should ever be denied meals and all students should have access to facilities that can provide them with their meals. This includes students attending charter schools.

The Department is currently providing meals to six out of the twenty-seven charter schools, with one charter schools' status pending. As such, the Department does and will continue to provide the service to feed charter school students. The Department is open and willing to provide meals to any and all charter schools, if they so desire to purchase meals through the Department.

The Department respectfully requests amendments to the measure that deletes reference to equitable access to department facilities for charter schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

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.



March 28, 2018

To: Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Education

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

Re: SCR 194 / SR 131- URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS, INCLUDING PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENTS, HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AND FOOD SERVICE- SUPORT
Conference Room 229 - Hawaii State Capitol - March 28, 2018, 2:50 P.M.

On behalf of the Hawaii Public Charter School Network (HPCSN), I respectfully submit our testimony in strong support for SCR 194 / SR 131- Urging the Department of Education to ensure that all public school students, including public charter school students, have equal access to appropriate educational facilities and food service.

Public charter schools are serving 11,160 students in Hawaii in 2018. Schools in non-DOE facilities do not have adequate resources to cover facilities costs, which on average take a 10 percent of the non-facilities per pupil funding (\$7383/student in SY17-18). Unlike traditional DOE schools, not all charter schools are able to provide school meals because often the cost of facilities expenses takes a larger percentage of the school's annual budget, especially in urban areas of the state. Charter schools serving a larger percentage of free & reduced lunch eligible students or in CEP-designated areas especially need state subsidies for school meals so that students gain access to nutrition programs designed to assist at-risk and underserved communities.

HPCSN believes every student is deserving of equity and access to the provision of non-per pupil facilities funding and state funding for school meals available to students in most public schools. For these reasons, we humbly ask your support for this bill to close the gap on providing equitable funding for public charter school students.

HPCSN works to improve the operation and governance of public charter schools in Hawai'i and to be a voice for children and families that seek educational choices and quality in an independent public-school setting. Mahalo for your consideration.

SCR-194

Submitted on: 3/27/2018 6:00:40 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/28/2018 2:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

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

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
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FOR: SCR 194/ SR 131 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENTS, INCLUDING PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENTS, HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO APPROPRIAT EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AND FOOD SERVICE

DATE: March 28, 2018

TIME: 2:50 P.M.

COMMITTEE: Senate Committee on Education

ROOM: Room 229

FROM: Sione Thompson, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to **SUPPORT THE INTENT of SCR 194/SR 91**, which requests the Department of Education (DOE) to ensure equal access to educational facilities and food service, provide school meals to public school students, and provide equitable facilities support to charter schools.

The majority of charter schools provide food service at various levels from a variety of sources which include the Department of Education and private, contracted vendors. As self-governed state agencies, charter schools have the authority to seek out and contract with either public or private providers for school meal services.

Currently, charter schools can request meal service from the DOE. Increased communication and collaboration with the DOE, specifically the department’s Food Services Branch, will allow more charter schools to receive meal service from the DOE, should the charter school choose the DOE as its meal provider. The Commission will continue to facilitate and assist these efforts between charter schools and the DOE in providing meals to charter school students.

The Commission defers to the DOE on the equitable facilities support requested in the resolution and commits to working with the DOE and public charter schools in any efforts to address equitable facilities. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.