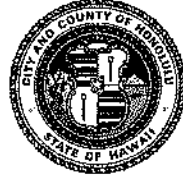


HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

636 South Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5007
Phone: 808-723-7139 Fax: 808-723-7111 Internet: www.honolulu.gov/hfd

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MANUEL P. NEVES
FIRE CHIEF

LIONEL CAMARA JR.
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

February 19, 2019

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance
The House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 308
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke:

Subject: House Bill (HB) 917, House Draft (HD) 1 Relating to Public School Lands

I am Manuel P. Neves, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The HFD opposes a section of HB 917, HD 1, which proposes to optimize the use of public school lands to generate opportunities to improve public school facilities and infrastructure to meet the challenges of the 21st Century and improve the overall quality of education in Hawaii.

Our concerns are with Section 2, amending Act 210, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018 that adds a parcel to the list of transferred lands from the City and County of Honolulu to the Department of Education (DOE).

The DOE seeks to gain fee simple interest, including the existing improvements, to a parcel identified by tax map key 2-4-002-019 (student transportation service office - Young Street). The HFD identified the parcel as a future location for a public safety facility serving the growing Kakaako-Ala Moana areas.

The HFD determined that increased residential and transient populations, proposed high-rise residential structures, and additional commercial development necessitate the need for a new facility. The Kakaako Fire Station is over 40 years old and was not designed to accommodate the proposed growth.

The HFD is committed to meeting national standards for the delivery of first responder services. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is the industry leader in determining acceptable fire service standards throughout the United States. The HFD

The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair
Page 2
February 11, 2019

strives to achieve this objective by meeting the criteria set forth in NFPA 1710: Standard for Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments.

NFPA 1710 mandates that the travel time for the first-arriving unit responding to emergencies in urban communities, such as the Kakaako-Ala Moana area, be within four minutes. Every minute of increased travel time exacerbates the seriousness of an emergency placing first responders and the community at greater risk.

Life, safety, and property protection is the top priority for the HFD. The Young Street parcel is an ideal site for a new fire station that will optimize the delivery of emergency services to the growing Kakaako-Ala Moana community.

The HFD urges your committee to amend Section 2 to exclude the identified parcel in HB 917, HD 1, as introduced.

Should you have questions, please contact Assistant Chief Nathan Ramos, Jr. of our Planning and Development division at 723-7106 or nramos@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,



MANUEL P. NEVES

Fire Chief

MPN/NR:ms



**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
State Capitol, Conference Room 308
415 South Beretania Street
12:30 PM**

February 21, 2019

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 917 HD 1, RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDS

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee:

My name is Gladys Quinto Marrone, CEO of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. Our members build the communities we all call home.

BIA-Hawaii is in **strong support** of H.B. 917, which requires the City and County of Honolulu to transfer to the Department of Education fee simple title to the property on which the Department's Student Transportation Service Office - Young Street is located.

We understand that this bill is required to implement Act 155, SLH 2013 which allowed the Department of Education to redevelop the lands on which its various school facilities were located for new 21st Century Schools, to generate revenue for the Department, and/or a combination of both.

The number of students enrolled at the public schools in Hawaii ranges from between 170,000 to 180,000 each year. However, the distribution of students has changed over the years with more students coming from newly developed areas and less coming from older communities.

Act 155, and this proposed bill will allow the Department to reposition its assets, and provided much needed land for redevelopment in the urban core. This bill is necessary to allow the Department to fully realize the redevelopment opportunities to the State.

We are in strong support of H.B. 917, and appreciate the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

HB-917-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 12:23:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO
SUPERINTENDENT

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



Date: 02/21/2019
Time: 12:30 PM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: HB 0917, HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDS.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the City and County of Honolulu to transfer to the Department of Education fee simple title to the property on which the Department's Student Transportation Service Office - Young Street is located. Appropriates funds. (HB917 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 917, HD1.

The Department was provided the authority to develop its assets to create twenty-first century schools through Act 155, Session Law of Hawaii 2013. In the Department's efforts to move projects forward for development, the Department regularly faces the the issue of land ownership.

Thank you for the opportunity to present 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.