



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

Date: 02/19/2019
Time: 09:30 AM
Location: 211
Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: SB 1307, SD1 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF COMBINING THE RESOURCES AND ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ON THE ISLANDS OF KAUAI, MAUI, MOLOKAI, LANAI, AND HAWAII ISLAND.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the department of education to determine the feasibility of combining the resources and organization of the department of accounting and general services with the department of education on the islands of Kauai, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, and Hawaii island. Takes effect on 7/1/2050. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (DOE) supports SB 1307, SD1. Currently, Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) is tasked with facilities and support services for neighbor island state buildings, state libraries and schools. This bill seeks to determine the feasibility of the DOE assuming responsibility for neighbor island schools.

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-1307-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:43:13 AM
Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Nagamine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I HIGHLY SUPPORT this bill. I was the former principal (2009-2016) and vice principal (2004-December 2008) of Moanalua Middle School and now I am the Principal-in-Residence for Secondary Principals. As the PIR of secondary schools, I am able to work with all the secondary schools across the state of Hawaii. I've been shocked to hear about the fact that neighbor island schools are not able to have their repairs done in a timely manner! We had this same problem on Oahu in the past with DAGS being separate from the DOE. Once DOE took over the repair and maintenance on Oahu, we were able to get our repairs addressed within 1-4 days instead of 3-4 weeks, months or years. When repairs are not addressed we as principals are faced with safety issues. For examples, when toilets, faucets, water fountains leak it causes slipping issues. Also, when gutters or roofs are not repaired in a timely manner they also cause hazardous safety conditions like slipping, also moss and mold starts to grow on our buildings when not addressed in a timely manner, etc. Please support this bill so we can get these important facility issues addressed on the neighbor islands.

THANK YOU!

LATE

SB-1307-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 9:38:36 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachelle Matsumura	Testifying for Honokaa High and Intermediate School	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, My name is Rachelle Matsumura and I am Principal of Honokaa High and Intermediate School on Hawaii Island. I am in support of this bill as it would be a first step in getting equity on the neighbor islands for facility concerns. The Oahu schools have maintenance workers that work for the department of education. The neighbor islands do not. We have the department of accounting and general services. To get any time of work done, one must fill out an electronic document to request for services. Someone from DAGS checks the document and approves or not. This process does not work. Some of the time the electronic ticket gets lost and disappears. There has to be a better way to get help for facility concerns. If you don't know what is happening..please talk with any neighbor island administrator in any school and you will get many stories of how getting any type of construction, regular checks of facilities and basic repair and maintenance can be seen as a nightmare. Sometimes it means that we need to take care of the situation ourselves, and we are not qualified, but that doesn't stop anyone from making the needed fixes for safety. As school principal my main job is keep our keiki safe and I work very hard to do so, however, I need assistance in doing this with facilities and having a study that will look at feasibility will assist me in doing my job right. Safety is everyone's concern.