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JOHN S.S. KIM
CHAIRPERSON

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

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FOR: HB 1526 HD1 RELATING TO STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS BUDGET
DATE: February 25, 2019
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Finance
ROOM: Conference Room 308
FROM: Sione Thompson, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

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

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in **SUPPORT of HB1526 HD1**. The Commission is grateful for the support shown to the public charter school system with the approved add-ons in the public charter school budget.

- **EDN 600**

The add-ons for EDN 600, the charter school budget are:

<u>EDN 600 Add-</u> <u>ons</u>	<u>FY2019-2020</u>	<u>MOF</u>	<u>FY2020-2021</u>	<u>MOF</u>
Facilities Funding	\$11,160,000	A	\$11,160,000	A
Teacher Incentives	\$892,000	A	\$892,000	A
Total	\$12,052,000	A	\$12,052,000	A
Federal Ceiling Increase	\$3,150,000	N	\$3,150,000	N

The Commission greatly appreciates the inclusion of facilities funding in the charter school budget as facilities costs have been one of the greatest unaddressed challenges for Hawaii’s chartering system. Facilities funding has been and continues to be a long-standing issue for charter schools and has been identified as one of the Commission’s standing advocacy principles.

In addition, the inclusion of teacher incentive funds as a separate budgetary appropriation addresses a long-standing issue pertaining to the funding of statutorily and collectively bargained teacher incentives. order to fully fund these incentives for charter school teachers who teach in hard-to-staff areas and charter school teachers who have earned National Board certification.

There are currently 230 teachers in eight charter schools designated as being in hard-to-fill areas. The current Master Agreement between the Board of Education and the Hawaii State Teachers Association requires that teachers in areas designated as hard-to-fill be paid an annual differential of \$3,000.

National Board Certified teachers represent another group of teachers that charter schools are required to provide an incentive to. There were about twenty-one teachers in thirteen charter schools who were national board certified.

Section 302A-706, HRS, establishes the teacher national board certification incentive program which provides a \$5,000 bonus to teachers who maintain national board certification. Incentives are also provided for completion of the certification program and an additional \$5,000 is provided to national board certified teachers who teach at a designated hard-to-staff area.

In addition to the general fund inclusion of approximately \$12 million, the Commission is requesting an increase of about \$3.1 million in the federal fund expenditure ceiling for public charter schools in order to allow for the total anticipated award amount for the next fiscal year.

- **EDN 612**

The add-ons for EDN 612, the Commission budget is:

EDN 612 Add- ons	FY2019-2020	MOF	FTE	FY2020-2021	MOF	FTE
Federal Ceiling Increase	\$1,384,300	N	5.0	\$1,384,300	N	5.0

The Commission is not requesting any general fund add-ons for the upcoming biennium budget at this time. As with EDN 600, the Commission is requesting an increase in its federal fund ceiling and federal fund position count to accurately reflect current operations and staffing.

The Commission appreciates the support for public charter schools shown by this committee and the House through the initiatives funded through this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

HB-1526-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 5:49:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please oppose HB1526. There is no reason to divert funding for public schools to those private.

Since DOE public schools are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, they are a perfectly acceptable, if not preferable, means of educating our children. Studies show charter schools underperform public schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei



LATE

KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

House Committee on Finance

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Date: February 25, 2019

Where: Conference Room 308

TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk

Kamehameha Schools

RE: HB 1526, HD1, Relating to the State Public Charter Schools Budget

E ka Luna Ho'omalu Luke, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalu Cullen, a me nā Lālā o ke Kōmike Waiwai o ka Hale o nā Lunamaka'āinana, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk, the Senior Policy Analyst for Kamehameha Schools.

Kamehameha Schools is in **support** of HB 1526, HD1, relating to the State Public Charter Schools Budget, which appropriates funds for the fiscal biennium 2019-2021 operating budget for Department of Education programs relating to charter schools under the purview of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Lower and Higher Education.

Kamehameha Schools advocates for and supports the achievement of Hawai'i's Native Hawaiian public school students. As such, we have been a collaborator with the Hawai'i public charter schools for over a decade. Through our work with and support of Hawaiian-focused public charter schools, we hope to significantly impact more children and their families through education.

We believe that Hawaiian-focused charter schools provide quality culture-based educational choices for all families and ultimately enhance both academic achievement and engagement for students. Funding for charter school facilities and teacher incentives is a major step forward in achieving necessary and sustainable funding for public charter schools.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an educational organization striving to restore our people through education and advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership.

'A'oha hana nui ke alu 'ia. No task is too large when we all work together! **Please advance this measure.**