



UNIVERSITY LABORATORY SCHOOL

A Hawai'i Public Charter School
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Committee on Lower & Higher Education
Friday, February 7, 2020, 2:20pm
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 309

The Governing Board of the University Laboratory School (ULS) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB2166**, which will allow ULS to continue to conform its student enrollment profile to assist with the research needs of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Education.

ULS is a unique state charter school with two interlocking missions: to design and deliver the best possible education to our own students, and to serve the educational research and development community. With our purposive enrollment, heterogeneous classes, emphasis on innovation and research, and provision of ongoing professional development for educators, our school serves as an experimental site for teaching, learning, and assessment in grades K-12.

Currently, ULS utilizes a weighted admissions lottery and process to create a student body reflecting the ethnic distribution of Hawai'i and that is inclusive of students across a range of academic achievement and family socioeconomic levels. This admissions system allows our school to maintain a student body that is representative of students statewide, which is utilized by the College of Education in its research and testing of curriculum and assessments being developed for use in Hawai'i's schools. Through the flexibility afforded under an enrollment provision in the state charter school law, ULS has continued its long-standing collaborative relationship with the College of Education, which has in turn contributed to the development of educational materials that have been successfully implemented across the State of Hawai'i school system and beyond.

The underlying statutory basis for ULS's unique curriculum testing environment is set to be automatically repealed on July 1, 2020. Without this statutory provision for ULS enrollment found in HRS 302D-34(d), ULS would be forced to shift to a basic enrollment lottery and would be severely limited in its ability to adjust enrollment in order to maintain the student demographics necessary under the College of Education's research standards.

Therefore, ULS strongly supports the repeal of the sunset date for its enrollment provision under the state charter school law. We believe our current admissions system, as authorized by HRS 302D-34(d), affords ULS the best chance to meet our school's missions and fulfill our unique role as a Hawai'i charter school, which in turn benefits the state's education system overall.

We respectfully ask this Committee to **PASS** this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-2166

Submitted on: 2/6/2020 1:01:10 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/7/2020 2:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Yoshimori-Yamamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The University Laboratory School (ULS) has been ranked as one of the top public schools in the state consistently for many years. ULS has been the test lab for innovative curriculum and their diverse student population is critical to reflect the diversity of our state's population. As a test lab for the University of Hawaii, ULS is able to support testing new curriculum to help all the students of Hawaii as well as around the world!

The partnership that ULS has with the University of Hawaii allows for a more streamlined process between the two entities. Although ULS is now a charter school and not a part of the university, there is still a collaborative and supportive environment for new curriculum, classroom observations and research to occur. When you enroll in ULS you agree to support the research and development to be embedded in your child's educational journey. This has proven to provide a great education for our kids!

I support HB2166 enrollment exemption for the University Laboratory School which will help with the development of better curriculum for all students!

Please pass this bill.

Thank you! Denise Yoshimori-Yamamoto

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



JOHN S.S. KIM
CHAIRPERSON

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

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LATE

FOR: HB 2166 Relating to the University Laboratory School
DATE: February 7, 2020
TIME: 2:20 P.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Lower and Higher Education
ROOM: Conference Room 309
FROM: Sione Thompson, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Quinlan, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony providing **COMMENTS on HB 2166**, which makes permanent the enrollment exemption for University Laboratory School (ULS).

While the Commission recognizes the school’s service and dedication to its students, there are concerns regarding the school’s enrollment policy and procedures. First, it is unclear, through any published research, that ULS’ enrollment exemption has increased student outcomes or added any value to the school’s education system. Second, it is unclear how the selection of students allowed by the enrollment exemption aligns with requirements pertaining to equity in access to quality public education.

The Commission is available to provide any needed assistance to the committee and other interested stakeholders as this legislation moves forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

HB-2166

Submitted on: 2/6/2020 9:58:25 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/7/2020 2:20:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Travis Palmeira	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM
Legislative Testimony

LATE

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Lower & Higher Education
February 7, 2020 at 2:20 p.m.

LATE

by
Kalbert K. Young
Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer
University of Hawai'i System

HB 2166 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY LABORATORY SCHOOL

Chair Woodson, Vice-Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Quinlan, and members of the Committee:

At the February 7th meeting of the House Committee on Lower & Higher Education, I provided verbal comments on House Bill 2166 without having submitted testimony ahead of the hearing. I am providing you a written summary of my comments here.

The University of Hawaii does not have a position on the goal of HB 2166 which is to remove the sunset date on Act 111 (2015) permitting the University Laboratory (Charter) School to utilize a selective admissions process. The University feels that the description of this bill as posted on the hearing notice and attached to the bill itself is inaccurate. The description states that the purpose of the bill is to “make permanent the law exempting the University Laboratory School from the public charter school enrollment policy so that it may conform its student enrollment profile to the standard prescribed by the University of Hawaii college of education in order to meet college’s research requirements.”

On behalf of the University of Hawaii, I am making clear that neither the University of Hawaii nor its college of education has any requirement for research, or otherwise, on the University Laboratory School (ULS) necessary for this exemption. I do not want Legislators to be of the misperception that the University of Hawaii is the reason that ULS requires this exemption. The University does not have a position either way as to whether ULS gets this exemption or not.

The University of Hawaii does do research in schools – including at the University Laboratory School. AS such, the University does research in schools that do not have this exemption. Whether ULS has this exemption or not will not necessarily affect whether UH or its college of education does or does not do future research at ULS.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.