



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

Date: 01/27/2020
Time: 02:45 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: SB 2264 RELATING TO SCHOOL LUNCH REFORM.

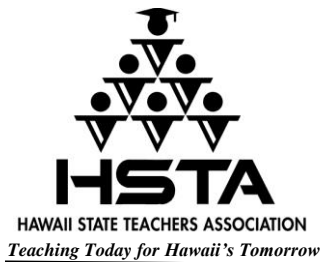
Purpose of Bill: Increases the number of days by which students have to apply for free or reduced lunch and to replenish the student's meal fund. Requires the department of education to report to the legislature regarding the number of students who are denied meals based on the inability to pay. Appropriates funds to the special school lunch fund.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 2264. The Department does encourage parents/guardians that at any time during the school year their financial conditions change, they can and should submit a new free/reduce meal application. Further, the Department has an electronic system that allows parents to receive via email low balance reminders as well as the ability to make online payments to their children's accounts. The system provides parents/guardians with the ability to manage their child's account at the tip of their finger.

All students in the Department are allowed to incur a negative balance per ACT 194, SLH 2017. The United States Department of Agriculture states, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA, Public Law 111-296; December 13, 2010) does not allow for the Department to carry negative balances. Thus, the Department finds this bill unnecessary as the bill increases the amount of labor through reporting while providing no additional funding to support additional manpower or technology to ensure compliance with SB 2264.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. 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.



Corey Rosenlee
President

Osa Tui, Jr.
Vice President
Logan Okita
Secretary-Treasurer

Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION

RE: SB 2264 - RELATING TO SCHOOL LUNCH REFORM

MONDAY, JANURARY 27, 2020

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports SB 2264**, relating to school lunch reform.

In Hawai'i, food insecurity is one of the most pressing manifestations of overall socioeconomic inequality. Over 70,000 public school students eat free or reduced-price meals in our state, though only 40 percent eat school breakfasts. Hawai'i ranks 47th in school breakfast participation rates among qualifying students. Out of the 14 other states with laws addressing school meals debt, 11 are stronger than Hawai'i's 2017 law, which created a one-week grace period for students after their school meal accounts hit zero or negative balances.

Congress established the National School Lunch Program, in 1946, and School Breakfast Program, fully implemented in 1975, to ensure that low-income students are properly nourished. Yet, many local families struggle to provide nutritious meals for their children. In our public schools 47 percent of all public school students qualify for the Department of Education's free and reduced lunch program, a number that has risen by 20 percent since 2007 because of economic decline and cost of living increases. Low-income students are, again, less likely to receive adequate meals at home, leaving them without the calories necessary to perform basic academic tasks. Cases of chronic hunger can lead to achievement gaps, concentration loss, illness, increased absenteeism, behavioral problems, depression, and misdiagnosed learning disabilities. Thus, providing a decent meal for our impoverished children—or in this case, ensuring that those meals aren't unnecessarily taken away—is an educational imperative.

To ensure that our students are well-fed and ready to learn, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.



HAWAII APPLESEED

CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Supporting SB 2264 – Relating to School Lunch Reform
Senate Committee on Education
Monday, January 27, 2020, 2:45PM, conference room 229

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 2264, with amendments**. The bill aims to reduce school meal debt and eliminate shaming for public and charter school students who are unable to afford school meals.

No one wants to see a child go hungry, and we all know that a student can't learn on an empty stomach. Unfortunately, the Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) reported that over one hundred students were denied a meal in 2017 due to inability to pay. This figure is likely much higher, as fewer than 30 percent of schools responded to the survey.ⁱ

Mahalo for passing SB 423 in 2017, which was one of the first state-level bills to address this important issue of school meals debt. However, a recent analysis found that of the 14 other states with school meal debt laws, 11 of them are stronger than Hawai'i's.ⁱⁱ

In passing SB 423 in 2017, you ensured that no student in our state is denied a school meal solely for failure to pay within the first 21 days of the start of the school year, while the student's free or reduced-price lunch application is being processed, nor within 7 days after a student's meal fund account reaches zero or a negative balance.

SB 2264 would extend both grace periods – while free and reduced-price meal applications are being processed at the start of the school year and when school meal fund accounts reach zero or negative balances – to 30 days.

Half of DOE's students come from families whose incomes are low enough to qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. But in the rush of the beginning of the academic year, it can take several weeks for parents to submit meal applications and schools to process them. In the meantime, the students' parents may not be able to afford to pay full price for school meals.

Similarly, when a school meal account balance drops to zero or negative, a family might struggle to replenish the account within 7 days, due to the timing of paychecks and unforeseen financial

The Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice is committed to a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. We change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, advocacy, and coalition building.

setbacks. That's why we believe that extending the grace periods will significantly reduce the number of instances when students are denied school meals.

In addition, SB 2264 eliminates school lunch and breakfast fees for students that qualify for reduced-price meals. This school year, a family of four in Hawai'i qualifies for reduced-price school meals when their annual income falls between \$38,507 and \$54,797.

It is possible that many of these reduced-price eligible students would be eligible for free school meals if they lived in another state. That is because the school meal eligibility guidelines are based on the official federal poverty rate, which does not take into account differences in the cost of living. Since Hawai'i has the highest cost of living among the states, our official poverty rate misses many families.

The Census Bureau has an alternate way to measure poverty that does incorporate the cost of living. According to that measure, Hawai'i has the 13th-highest poverty rate in the nation, as opposed to the 8th-lowest rate, according to the official measure. That difference means an additional 59,000 people in Hawai'i falling into poverty when the cost of living is taken into account.

While the school meals eligibility guidelines for Hawai'i are 15 percent higher than in the continental states, that doesn't make up for the fact that our state's poverty rate is 44 percent higher when cost-of-living differences are taken into account. It is likely that many reduced-price eligible families are falling into this gap.

SB 2264 would help alleviate the financial burden of these working-class families by allowing reduced-price eligible students to receive fully free meals, as several states have done.

In addition, in order to ensure that students are not stigmatized by being served inadequate school meals during the 30-day grace periods, **we respectfully offer the following amendment:**

Page 1, Line 16, Section 2(b): Add "or served an alternate meal" after "No student shall be denied a meal..."

We believe SB 2264 would be an enormous help for students and families who are teetering at the edge of poverty, but whom don't currently qualify for free school meals, as well as greatly reduce the frequency of children being denied school meals due to inability to pay.

We appreciate your consideration of this testimony. We hope you will pass SB 2264, with our suggested amendment.

ⁱ State of Hawai'i Department of Education: Annual Report on School Meals, December 27, 2017. Retrieved online January 24, 2020 at http://www.Hawai'ipublicschools.org/Reports/LEG18_SchoolMeals.pdf

ⁱⁱ Honolulu Civil Beat: Why Hawai'i Kids Can Still Be Denied School Lunches, October 9, 2019. Retrieved online January 24, 2020 at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2019/10/why-Hawai'i-kids-can-still-be-denied-school-lunches/>



Hawaii
Children's Action Network Speaks!
Building a unified voice for Hawaii's children

January 26, 2020

To: Senator Kidani, Chair
Senator Kim, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Education

LATE

Re: **SB 2264, Relating to school lunch reform**
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229
2:45PM, 1/27/2020

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and committee members,

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!, we are writing in strong support of SB 2264-relating to school lunch reform. Nutrition in school is an essential part of student's success and no child should be denied a lunch because of inability to pay.

Almost 1 in 2 households have trouble meeting their basic needs. The costs of school meals may seem small but to a family struggling to pay, even the reduced cost can be a burden. By eliminating the costs for those families in the reduced price meals, we can ensure these children do not go hungry.

I respectfully request the following amendment, which would further ensure that every child gets a full meal, regardless of ability to pay. Suggested amendment: Page 1, line 16, section 2(b): Add "or served an alternate meal" after "No student shall be denied a meal.....".

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support of SB 2264, with an amendment.** We respectfully request the committee to pass the bill and amendment and ensure that more of our children are able to get the nutrition that they need at school.

Thank you,
Kathleen Algire
Director, Public Policy and Research



SENATE BILL 2264, RELATING TO SCHOOL LUNCH REFORM

JANUARY 27, 2020 · SENATE EDUCATION
COMMITTEE · CHAIR SEN. MICHELLE N. KIDANI

POSITION: Support.

RATIONALE: The Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus supports SB 2264, relating to school lunch reform, which increases the number of days by which students have to apply for free or reduced lunch and to replenish the student's meal fund, requires the Hawai'i Department of Education to report to the legislature regarding the number of students who are denied meals based on the inability to pay, and appropriates funds to the special school lunch fund.

Currently, 47.39 percent of students enrolled in the HIDOE are considered economically disadvantaged, including 3,604 students that experienced homelessness in the 2019-2020 school year. Moreover, 181 schools, including charter schools, are classified as Title I, meaning at least 47.2 percent of each school's total student populations is impoverished. While 84,993 students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch programs, many students remain on the cusp of poverty and attend schools that do not meet the minimum poverty requirements to qualify the entire school for reduced-price lunch. In turn, these students may be unable to afford the basic nutrition needed to actively participate in the learning process.

Hawai'i has the highest cost of living in the nation. To boost student achievement, we should ensure that our keiki are hungry for knowledge by ensuring that they're never hungry for food.



LATE

January 25, 2020

RE: **SUPPORT for SB2264**

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of SB2264. Blue Zones Project was brought to Hawaii by HMSA to help increase the overall well-being of our communities and to make Hawaii a healthier, happier place to live, work and play. To accomplish that goal, we address ways that we can lower obesity rates, tobacco use, and chronic diseases.

School meals—both breakfast and lunch—are as critical to student learning as textbooks and tests. In addition to improving student attendance, behavior, and grades, school meals can help to improve youth nutrition and lower rates of obesity. While school administration and teachers work hard to enroll families in the free and reduced price meal program and replenish a student’s meal fund, we know that issues arise that may prevent this from immediately happening. SB2264 takes steps to better support our struggling families and collect important data that can help our school system make informed policy decisions. No one wants our children to go hungry.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB2264.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colby Takeda".

Colby Takeda
Senior Manager
Blue Zones Project Hawaii
Colby.takeda@sharecare.com



SB-2264

Submitted on: 1/25/2020 8:36:50 PM

Testimony for EDU on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marissa Baptista	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Dear Chair Kidani and members of the Committee,

Aloha! My name is Marissa Baptista and I live in Moanalua on Oahu. Please pass SB 2264 WITH THE FOLLOWING UPDATES in order to minimize the situations where a student may be denied a school meal of their choice because of the student's inability to pay (due to the fault of their parent(s) or guardian(s)).

Based on my experience as a parent of 3 children and an active parent in my kids school parent organizations in Loudoun County, Virginia, I am very aware of the school lunch debt-student shaming issue. Based on my understanding of the issue in Northern VA and now Hawaii with our children attending Hawaii public schools, I'd like to suggest the following edits:

- Remove Section 2, (b), lines 1 and 2. As stated in my earlier paragraph, this is an issue that the school needs to address directly with the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the student. Meals should not be withheld from students due to neglect by the parent(s) or guardian (s). Section 2, (b), should solely read, " No student shall be denied a meal solely for failure to pay".
- Extracted from the Loudoun County School Board Policy 6130/Unpaid Meal Debt (detailed below), add a new bullet within Section 2 that reads, " Students whose accounts have insufficient funds will receive the advertised school menu meal of their choice. Meal options will not be changed, withheld or taken from a student with a zero or negative balance/a. Students will not be allowed to incur debt for a la carte items. This edit will remove the practice of students audibly and visibly being forced to eat a cheese sandwich as punishment for non-payment - furthering shame and potential bullying by peers.

Mahalo for the chance to share my opinion with you today.

Additional facts to support Bill 2264 and its edits are included below:

- Half of Hawaii's 179,000 students qualify for free and reduced-price meals.
- According to the DOE, while many schools allow students to incur a negative balance, over one hundred students were denied meals due to inability to pay in 2017.
- Out of the 14 other states with laws addressing school meals debt, 11 are stronger than Hawaii's 2017 law, which created a one-week grace period for students after their school meal accounts hit zero or negative balances.
- A hungry child can't succeed in school. In fact, research shows that students who are hungry suffer poorer grades and increased behavioral and emotional problems, according to the Food Research and Action Center.
- Eliminating the fee for reduced-price school meals will help students and families who are teetering at the edge of poverty but don't currently qualify for free school meals.
- Eliminating the reduced-price copay could also increase the number of students who participate in school meal programs, which research shows are healthier than typical packed lunches.
- I agree with the legislature's finding "that proper nutrition is an important part of a student's healthy learning environment. As such, the removal or refusal of a student's lunch due to the inability to pay creates an unhealthy learning environment for the student."

Details from Loudoun County School Board Policy 6130 - UNPAID MEAL DEBT
([https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/loudoun/Board.nsf/files/B8RM4Z597CEE/\\$file/6130.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/loudoun/Board.nsf/files/B8RM4Z597CEE/$file/6130.pdf))

The National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs ensure that students have access to nutritious meals to support academic readiness. It is imperative to protect the financial stability of the School Nutrition Program. The intent of this policy is to establish expectations regarding communication with parents of students whose accounts have insufficient funds to pay for school meals and to outline fiduciary responsibility.

A. Communicating the Unpaid Meal Debt Policy. The written meal debt policy will be published and communicated in a variety of ways per federal law.

B. Fiduciary Responsibility.

1. Parents or guardians are responsible for all student meal expenses and are expected to pay all meal debts in full.

2. Students from families not qualified for free or reduced price meals are expected to provide payment for student meals at the time of service.
3. Students from households whose income is at or below federally designated financial levels may apply for free or reduced price meals.
4. Students whose accounts have insufficient funds will receive the advertised school menu meal of their choice. Meal options will not be changed, withheld or taken from a student with a zero or negative balance a. Students will not be allowed to incur debt for a la carte items. b. Students are prohibited from doing work or chores to pay down school meal debt.
5. Adults shall pay for meals at the time of service.

C. Notifying Households of Low and/or Negative Balances in Student's Accounts. When a student account reaches a low or negative balance, communication shall be made directly to the parent or legal guardian, and the unpaid meal debt policy will be referenced. School Nutrition Services will not utilize wristbands or hand stamps. No communication is allowed directly with students.

D. Debt Resolution. School Nutrition Services Revenue may not be used to subsidize unpaid meal debt.

Adopted: 1/22/19

_____ Legal Refs: Code of Federal Regulations Part 200 Section 143 of Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act, 2010, Code of Virginia §22.1-79.7

SB-2264

Submitted on: 1/25/2020 6:45:03 AM

Testimony for EDU on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Whispering Wind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I SUPPORT SB2264. Please pass this bill to help feed hungry children.

Mahalo,

Mary Overbay

Hilo, Hawaii

SB-2264

Submitted on: 1/25/2020 6:48:35 AM

Testimony for EDU on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I SUPPORT SB2264. Please pass this bill to help feed hungry children.

Mahalo,

Brian Murphy

Hilo, Hawaii

SB-2264

Submitted on: 1/25/2020 7:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynn Robinson-Onderko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

THE SENATE
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2020

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
DATE: Monday, January 27, 2020
TIME: 2:45pm
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street
HEARING **SB 2264**

POSITION: **STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2264**

The issue of students unable to eat having a meal in school is not just a matter of empathy and feeling. For young children, their bodies and cognitive abilities are still being developed along with psycho-social needs. The numbers are staggering, half of Hawaii's 179,000 students qualify for free and reduced-price meals and according to the DOE. Many schools allow students to incur a negative balance yet over one hundred students were denied meals due to the inability to pay in 2017.

Out of the 14 other states with laws addressing school meals debt, 11 are stronger than Hawaii's 2017 law, which created a one-week grace period for students after their school meal accounts hit zero or negative balances.

Academic peer-reviewed studies suggest strongly that students that are not able to have proper nourishment have tendencies toward lower scores in both academic and cognitive performance. This may lead to issues concerning undesired behaviors within school and society.

Further evidence from the Food and Research Action Center and their researchers conclude the following: "a hungry child can't succeed in school...research shows that students who are hungry suffer poorer grades and increased behavioral and emotional problems".

In Hawaii public schools such undesired behaviors such as insubordination toward teachers and staff administrators which may lead to the student being penalized under Chapter 19 student disciplinary code. If this happens enough it could lead to more severe outcomes such as out of school suspensions or exposure to our criminal justice system.

In the Maslow hierarchy of needs, nourishment is one of the foundational pillars toward being a productive citizen. Thus, we owe it to our next generation that what support we can provide toward becoming a responsible productive member of society. Therefore, it is in the best interest of the committee to pass

this bill forward and give families that additional peace of mind. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Mahalo,

Ken Farm

SB-2264

Submitted on: 1/26/2020 8:50:45 AM

Testimony for EDU on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin Salisbury	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because I was one of the kids who struggled with this problem. I was born to a mother on the WIC program, and my parents struggled to provide nutritious food to my brother, my sister, and me. By the time I was in middle school, my father got a better job, and we started being able to afford real food, including school lunches. My brother might be too young to remember, but my sister and I certainly do. My family's inability to pay consistently for school lunches led us to choose other alternatives that caused other problems; a shame-free lunch program could have made school lunches available to me at a younger age.

I remember, from an early age, when something went wrong with our food, we could not afford to throw it away. The answer was always that my father would eat it. If we burnt the toast, my father would eat it. If something was stale, my father would eat it, and maybe we would, too. If bread was moldy, he could salvage what parts of the bread that he could and eat that so that the best food would go to the rest of us. I had a diet that was very high in sodium, and I don't know exactly what that will do to me as I continue to age. I certainly have a high tolerance for sodium now.

I wasn't put on the reduced-price lunch system, and I don't know if that was because my parents were too prideful or what exactly the reason was. I'm sure I could have qualified. I would bring other things in my lunch box. I don't know exactly where my mother got them, but she found ways to mix and match things to make them tolerable. I remember eating tuna salad out of an ice cream cone from time to time, which wasn't bad. I remember that I had to eat PB&J on hot dog buns or these little white buns with sesame seeds on them—gosh, those were nasty, but it was what we had. I felt nauseated when eating them, and I remember trying to decide, as a kid still young enough to play tee ball, how much of them I needed to eat to not be hungry and stop no later than that point. My father taught me how I could hold my nose while eating in order to not taste my food. I got bullied for what I was eating sometimes, but I didn't have a choice. I remember watching the other kids throw away extra school lunch food and thinking that what they were discarding was better than what I was eating. It's hard to feel like you deserve to benefit from education when you get shamed at lunchtime.

Lunchtime is like a community setting where we all show everyone around us what we've got, and we do judge the people around us based on what they eat for lunch.

When it came to classes after lunch, I remember being tired and wondering how the other kids had so much energy. I didn't think of myself as very athletic or able to shine socially. I didn't think of it as a function of my food then, but I wonder about it now as an adult, especially as our country has begun talking about school lunch program reform. I was able to start eating school lunches after my father got that better job when I was in middle school, but my social status and attitudes about myself had been set. If I could have been able to eat school lunches like the other kids from the beginning, I wonder how my childhood could have been different.

Childhood nutrition impacts our health down the road. I thought I was someone who naturally had digestive trouble as a kid, but I now wonder how much of it was purely a function of poor nutrition. Even as an adult, when I do miss work, it's almost always because I'm having trouble with something digestive. The costs created by school lunch shaming stay with us for life. It's such a small cost while we are young to fix it, but it compounds over the years.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Senator Michelle N. Kadani
Senator Donna Mercado Kim
Committee on Education, Committee on Ways and Means

Lisa B. Bollinger
Graduate Student in the School of Social Work
Interning at various schools on the island of Hawai'i

Monday January 27, 2020

Support for S.B. 2264, Relating to School Lunch Reform

Dear Chair Kadani and members of the Committees,

Aloha. My name is Lisa Bollinger, and I am a student completing my master's degree in social work. My area of specialization is behavioral mental health, and my practicum experience has been in several schools on Hawai'i island. I am writing to ask you to please pass SB 2264 in order to minimize or eliminate situations where a student may be denied a school meal because of their family's inability to pay.

As I have worked with students in grades 1 through 8, I can tell you that access to food insecurity is an enormous barrier to learning and is seen on a daily basis. I cannot tell you how many times I have been called to assist a student who is having difficulty with behavior and focus in a classroom, only to learn that they began the day without breakfast. Recently I worked with such a student who was unable to stay in class due to hunger and frustration and remained with me until lunchtime. It was only after eating lunch in the cafeteria that the student's mood and behavior stabilized allowing the student to focus and successfully complete the rest of the school day. The student had forgotten their home lunch, and had they been denied a school meal, this student would have lost the entire day of learning to hunger.

Since over half of Hawai'i students in our state qualify for free and reduced-price meals, clearly food insecurity is an important issue to our school communities. We all know a hungry child, or adult for that matter, cannot succeed in school. We also know the stigma created by poverty and its negative impact on student self-confidence and mental well-being. According to the Food Research and Action Center's report on the Connections Between Food Insecurity and Student Behavior (2018), a) Children who experience hunger are seven times more likely to engage in physical altercations b) Children from food-insecure households have lower levels of self-control in early childhood and higher levels of delinquency during late childhood as compared to peers from food-secure households c) Food insecurity impairs a child's ability to develop interpersonal relationships; maintain self-control; and welcome learning opportunities. The FRAC study (2018) also cites national data showing that free and reduced-price lunches reduce food insecurity prevalence by at least 3.8 percent.

Eliminating the fee for reduced-price school meals will help students and families who are on the edge of poverty but do not currently qualify for free school meals. Extending the grace period to 30 days, for families who are behind on lunch balances, will keep students nourished both physically and mentally. Clearly this will not address the larger issues of food insecurity, but S.B. 2264 will provide much needed support to help our students' positive growth and well-being. I encourage the committees to pass S.B. 2264. Thank you for listening and for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

SB-2264

Submitted on: 1/26/2020 7:43:40 PM

Testimony for EDU on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jun Shin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senate Education Committee,

My name is Jun Shin and I'm a resident of Ala Moana. Please pass SB 2264, which would minimize the situations where a student may be denied a school meal because of the student's inability to pay.

I support SB 2264 because a hunger student isn't able to fully function in a school setting. Eliminating the fee for reduced-price school meals will help students and families who are teetering at the edge of poverty but don't currently qualify for free school meals. We need to help all our keiki have access to meals.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin,

1561 Kanunu St.

Cell: 808-255-6663

Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com