

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/5/2021 3:41:44 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cheryl B.	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Comments:

The current Superintendent is not capable in my opinion of organizing or running a summer program. If left up to her, tutoring companies from the continent will be left to do the work. Our students deserve better. There are so many educators who would be able to organize and implement a summer program, let them do it, pay them. (they also would do a great job of implementing and organizing for the regular school year)

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/6/2021 11:39:39 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ron Okimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Committee on Education

Representative Justin Woodson, Chair

Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 2:00 PM

Conference Room 309

Re: Support of House Bill 612 Relating to Education

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice-Chair Kapela, and members of the committee,

As a private citizen and father, I support House Bill 612, which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children.

COVID learning loss needs to be addressed by providing strong support to our charter and public school students, especially the most vulnerable and those coming from low-income families.

Summer months need to be utilized to provide coordinated summer programs. Summer programs:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss due to school closures and disrupted schedules.
- Address student mental health by connecting young people with caring mentors trained to help youth build healthy relationships and heal from trauma.

- Promote physical activity by encouraging physical health and wellness. Physical activity is critical now as many students are in virtual or hybrid-learning and children have limited options for daily exercise.
- Ensure child safety to offer families a safe place for children to learn, allowing parents to return to work or take time to seek employment.

Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, strategically leverage federal and state funding, and ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students.

In conclusion, I support HB612 and respectfully urge this bill's passage so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Ron Okimoto

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/6/2021 12:26:16 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jim Crisafulli	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 6, 2021

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the House Education Committee:

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of House Bill 612, which would provide much needed assistance for both charter and public summer school education programs for children.

As Paula Adams, Executive Director of the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance has indicated, this initiative would address a broad range of educational issues associated with the ongoing pandemic – helping to enhance learning opportunities to enable students to recover from learning loss due to school closures and disrupted schedules, connecting students with care mentors trained to address the trauma associated with this pandemic, promoting health and wellness through enhanced physical activities, and affording creative approaches to ensure child safety while parents return to (or seek) employment.

Coordinating such efforts through a summer learning coordinator would help avoid duplication of efforts, strategically leverage federal and state funding to help accomplish these goals, and ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system in ways that would both target and benefit the most impacted and vulnerable students.

Your support for this measure would be greatly appreciated.

Mahalo!



Jim Crisafulli, Director - Hawaii Space Industry Innovation Program (HiSPACE)

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/6/2021 12:57:31 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marissa Baptista	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Re: Support of House Bill 612 Relating to Education**

**Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and members of the committee,**

**As a resident and Moanalua Complex public school parent active in my childrens elementary and middle school PTSAs I support House Bill 612 which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children.**

**Requires the summer learning coordinator to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.**

**COVID learning loss needs to be addressed by providing strong support to our charter and public school students, especially the most vulnerable and those coming from low-income families.**

**Summer months need to be utilized to provide coordinated summer programs.  
Summer programs:**

- **Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss due to school closures and disrupted schedules.**
- **Address student mental health by connecting young people with caring mentors who are trained to help youth build healthy relationships and heal from trauma.**
- **Promote physical activity by encouraging physical health and wellness. Physical activity is especially important now as many students are in virtual or hybrid-learning and children have limited options for daily exercise.**
- **Ensure child safety to offer families a safe place for children to learn allowing parents to return to work or take time to seek employment.**

**Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, strategically leverage federal and state funding, and ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students.**

**In conclusion, I support HB612 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**Sincerely,**

Marissa Baptista

HI Public School Parent Education Advocate



**Kaho'omiki**  
Hawai'i Council on Physical Activity & Nutrition

February 6, 2021

To: Chair Woodson  
Vice Chair Kapela  
House Committee on Education

Re: **Strong Support for SB612**

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and members of the House Committee on Education:

Thank you for your dedication to our keiki and for this opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support of SB612**, which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator for children and coordinate all programs for children.

Kaho'omiki, the Hawai'i Council on Physical Activity and Nutrition, is a non-profit that encourages lifelong healthy lifestyles and closely works with organizations across the state to better the lives of people of all ages, including youth.

There is extensive evidence showing the benefit of summer programs for children's social, emotional, and academic well-being. Youth who participate in summer programs are more independent, develop relationship and socialization skills, become more resilient, and gain valuable skills. They are also more physically active, mentally stimulated, and civically engaged. This bill will make important strides towards our unified goal of improving outcomes for our future generations, particularly during summer breaks from school.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of **SB612**.

Sincerely,

Colby Takeda  
President & Chair of the Board

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/6/2021 9:16:15 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Donna Ede	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Donna Rego Ede

5349 Opihi St.

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821

Committee on Education

Representative Justin Woodson, Chair

Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 2:00PM

Conference Room 309

Re: Support of House Bill 612 Relating to Education

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and members of the committee,

As a retired teacher I urge you all to support requiring the DOE to appoint a summer learning coordinator to coordinate all summer programs, and strategically leverage federal funds for summer programs.



Teachers know that COVID learning loss needs to be addressed by providing strong support to our charter and public school students, especially the most vulnerable and those coming from low-income families.

Summer months need to be utilized to provide coordinated summer programs. Summer programs to help:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss due to school closures and disrupted schedules.
  - Address student mental health by connecting young people with caring mentors who are trained to help youth build healthy relationships and heal from trauma.
  - Promote physical activity by encouraging physical health and wellness. Physical activity is especially important now as many students are in virtual or hybrid-learning and children have limited options for daily exercise.
  - Ensure child safety to offer families a safe place for children to learn allowing parents to return to work or take time to seek employment.
- 
1. services avoid duplication of efforts, strategically leverage federal and state funding, and ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students.

I respectfully urge all of you to pass HB 612 so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Donna Rego Ede



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

**Date:** 02/09/2021

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 309 Via Videoconference

**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 0612 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children. Requires the summer learning coordinator to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii Department of Education (Department) respectfully provides comments for the committee's consideration on HB 0612. The Department appreciates the legislature's commitment to providing the necessary support to coordinate summer programs.

The Hawaii State Board of Education (Board) Policy 500-18 ([boe.hawaii.gov/policies/Board%20Policies/Summer%20School%20Programs.pdf](http://boe.hawaii.gov/policies/Board%20Policies/Summer%20School%20Programs.pdf)) states that summer school programs may be organized and conducted at the discretion of the superintendent or the superintendent's designee(s).

The Department has already started cross-office meetings to coordinate summer learning programs and is working through all school-based summer programs. In addition to the cross-office meeting, there is an existing initiative slated for Summer 2021 between the official summer school and Community Engagement Branch Out of School Time Network, specifically United Peer Learning, Integrating New Knowledge (UPLINK); Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture and Health (REACH); and 21st Century Community Learning Centers. This collaboration can serve as a model to create other coordinated efforts and streamlined communication.

Given the existing Board policy providing the Superintendent with discretion over

summer school programming and the existing pilot program, we believe this measure is not needed at this time. We would defer to the Department of Human Services in regards to any restrictions placed on the federal funds administered by their department that is mentioned in the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 0612.

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](http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org).

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/7/2021 10:30:27 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kenichi Yabusaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Woodson and Committee Members:

I fully support HB612. The State of Hawaii's Department of Education needs all the support as education is not only a yearly process but life long. Summer programs are essential to our Keiki and a Coordinator is vital to its success. Please pass HB612. Thank you for your service and support.

Sincerely,

Kenichi K. Yabusaki, Ph.D.

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/7/2021 11:44:26 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Bambara	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

First you take their land. Then you make it illegal for them to stand on it. Please oppose. We already have Trespass laws. Please focus on helping the people of the communities you represent as opposed to further being used as tools for private enterprise.



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

*Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501c4 nonprofit committed to advocating for children and their families. Our core issues are safety, health, and education.*

To: House Committee on Education

Re: **HB 612- Relating to education**  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 309  
February 9, 2021, 2:00 PM

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and committee members,

**On behalf of Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in support of HB 612, relating to education.** This bill would require the Superintendent of Education to serve as the summer learning coordinator to coordinate all summer programs for children and to strategically leverage certain federal funds for summer programs.

With new data showing Hawai'i's public school students suffering more learning loss during the pandemic than in previous school years,<sup>1</sup> it is crucial that the Department of Education do all it can to help our keiki catch up academically. One key way to do that is to make sure that our state's wide variety summer learning programs are well-coordinated and take advantage of as many federal resources as possible.

That's why HB 612 makes sense. It would require the Superintendent, or her designee, to coordinate all school-based summer programs for children, including but not limited to public school and e-summer school programs as well as 21st Century Community Learning Centers, UPLINK, A+, Credit Recovery, alternative learning, and other school-based summer programs.

This type of centralized coordination would help Hawai'i systematically recruit those students most in need of summer learning, eliminate access gaps, and eliminate potentially wasteful duplication of services.

In addition, this bill would require the Superintendent to work with the Department of Human Services to leverage federal funds for these summer programs, including but not limited to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds, Child Care and Development Block Grants, and other federal funds for school-based summer programs for children.

Some of the above-mentioned funding sources are specifically targeted to serve lower-income children and youth, which is especially needed as growing evidence shows that pandemic learning loss is exacerbating pre-existing inequalities in our community.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.hpr2.org/post/hawaii-public-school-students-saw-more-learning-loss-during-pandemic-compared-other-years#stream/0>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-and-social-sector/our-insights/covid-19-and-learning-loss-disparities-grow-and-students-need-help>



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

In fact, Hawai'i's students were the most prone to academic risks in the nation during the spring of 2020, according to an *Education Week* analysis,<sup>3</sup> with the largest disparity in weekly teacher interactions between more-educated and less-educated households. While the gap for the nation was about 8 percentage points, Hawai'i's gap was the largest in the nation, at nearly 54 percentage points.

Such wide gaps make summer learning programs even more important for our keiki. A researcher of summer learning loss recommended during the pandemic that school districts “think about expanding summer learning opportunities and expanding the breadth of students that those are offered to, to help provide additional time and instruction during those months.”<sup>4</sup>

Experts project that it will take years for school systems to make up for pandemic learning loss. This bill would jump-start important efforts to help students catch up.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony. Please pass HB 612.

Thank you,

Nicole Woo  
Director, Research and Economic Policy

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.edweek.org/policy-politics/coronavirus-learning-loss-risk-index-reveals-big-equity-problems/2020/09>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/20/03/harvard-edcast-learning-loss-and-coronavirus>

## Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

1776 University Avenue, WA1-102  
Honolulu, HI 96822



Committee on Education  
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair  
Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 2:00PM  
Conference Room 309

Re: Support of House Bill 612 Relating to Education

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports House Bill 612 which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children. Requires the summer learning coordinator to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.

COVID learning loss needs to be addressed by providing strong support to our charter and public school students, especially the most vulnerable and those coming from low-income families.

Summer months need to be utilized to provide coordinated summer programs. Summer programs:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss due to school closures and disrupted schedules.
- Address student mental health by connecting young people with caring mentors who are trained to help youth build healthy relationships and heal from trauma.
- Promote physical activity by encouraging physical health and wellness. Physical activity is especially important now as many students are in virtual or hybrid-learning and children have limited options for daily exercise.
- Ensure child safety to offer families a safe place for children to learn allowing parents to return to work or take time to seek employment.

Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, strategically leverage federal and state funding, and ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students.

In conclusion, the Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports HB612 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Paula Adams  
Executive Director  
Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance  
hawaiiafterschool@gmail.com  
www.hawaiiafterschoolalliance.org





1523 Kalākau Avenue  
Suite 200-202  
Honolulu, HI 96826  
808.734.1314  
808.356.0232 Fax

[asashawaii.org](http://asashawaii.org)

Committee on Education  
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair  
Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 2:00PM  
Conference Room 309

Re: Support of House Bill 612 Relating to Education

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and members of the committee,

After-School All-Stars Hawaii supports House Bill 612 which requires the Superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children, and to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.

COVID learning loss needs to be addressed by providing strong support to our charter and public school students, especially the most vulnerable and who are socio-economically disadvantaged.

Summer months need to be utilized to provide coordinated summer programs that:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss due to school closures and disrupted schedules.
- Address student mental health by connecting young people with caring adult mentors who are trained to help youth build healthy relationships.
- Promote physical activity by encouraging physical health and wellness. Physical activity is especially important now as many students are in virtual or hybrid-learning and children have limited options for daily exercise.
- Ensure child safety by offering families a safe place for children to learn, allowing parents to return to work or take time to seek employment.

Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, strategically leverage federal and state funding and ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students.

In conclusion, the Hawai’i Afterschool Alliance supports HB612 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students in Hawai’i have the support they need. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

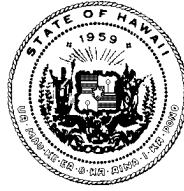
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paula Fitzell". The signature is stylized with loops and flourishes.

Paula Fitzell  
President/CEO  
After-School All-Stars Hawaii

**DAVID IGE**  
GOVERNOR

**Aaron Tominaga**  
PRINCIPAL



**DR. CHRISTINA KISHIMOTO**  
SUPERINTENDENT

**James Suster**  
VICE PRINCIPAL

**Tara Soleta**  
VICE PRINCIPAL

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Waipahu Elementary School  
94-465 Waipahu St.  
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

Committee on Education  
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair  
Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 2:00PM  
Conference Room 309

Re: Support of House Bill 612 Relating to Education

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and members of the committee,

Waipahu Elementary School supports House Bill 612 which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children. Requires the summer learning coordinator to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.

COVID learning loss needs to be addressed by providing strong support to our charter and public school students, especially the most vulnerable and those coming from low-income families.

Summer months need to be utilized to provide coordinated summer programs. Summer programs:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss due to school closures and disrupted schedules.
- Address student mental health by connecting young people with caring mentors who are trained to help youth build healthy relationships and heal from trauma.
- Promote physical activity by encouraging physical health and wellness. Physical activity is especially important now as many students are in virtual or hybrid-learning and children have limited options for daily exercise.
- Ensure child safety to offer families a safe place for children to learn allowing parents to return to work or take time to seek employment.

Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, strategically leverage federal and state funding, and ensure equity by replacing the "first-come, first-served" recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students.

In conclusion, Waipahu Elementary School supports HB612 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

James Suster  
Vice Principal  
Waipahu Elementary School  
Tel: (808) 307-6221

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 10:34:02 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alec Marentic	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a School Psychologist for the HIDOE, I support House Bill 612 which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children.

Requires the summer learning coordinator to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.

COVID learning loss needs to be addressed by providing strong support to our charter and public school students, especially the most vulnerable and those coming from low-income families.

Summer months need to be utilized to provide coordinated summer programs. Summer programs:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss due to school closures and disrupted schedules.
- Address student mental health by connecting young people with caring mentors who are trained to help youth build healthy relationships and heal from trauma.
- Promote physical activity by encouraging physical health and wellness. Physical activity is especially important now as many students are in virtual or hybrid-learning and children have limited options for daily exercise.
- Ensure child safety to offer families a safe place for children to learn allowing parents to return to work or take time to seek employment.

Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, strategically leverage federal and state funding, and ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students.

In conclusion, the Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports HB612 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Committee on Education  
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair  
Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

February 9, 2021

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Committee,

This testimony is submitted **in support for HB 612**, which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children. The bill also requires the summer learning coordinator to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.

HE'E supports better coordination for all summer programs. The Coalition presented an analysis of DOE's 2020 summer program to the Board of Education on September 17, 2020, which showed that while the program was extensive, it only reached roughly 20% of our high-needs students at a considerable cost.<sup>1</sup> We feel that one of the reasons for the limited participation of high-needs students was that there was not enough coordination and partnership with community organizations, many of which work with our most vulnerable students.

Hui for Excellence in Education, or "HE'E," promotes a child-centered and strength-based public education system in which families, communities and schools are valued and empowered to help every student succeed. HE'E works to bring diverse stakeholders together to harness collective energy, share resources, and identify opportunities for progressive action in education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support represents a 75% consensus or more of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

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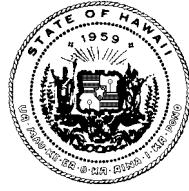
<sup>1</sup> <http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Meeting%20Material%20Library/Testimony%2020200917%20GBM.pdf>



Academy 21  
After-School All-Stars Hawai'i  
Alliance for Place Based Learning  
\*Castle Complex Community Council  
\*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS  
\*Education Institute of Hawai'i  
\*Faith Action for Community Equity  
Fresh Leadership LLC  
Girl Scouts Hawaii  
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation  
\*HawaiiKidsCAN  
\*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance  
\*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
\*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists  
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars  
\*Hawai'i Children's Action Network  
Hawai'i Education Association  
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition  
\* Hawai'i State PTSA  
Hawai'i State Student Council  
Hawai'i State Teachers Association  
Hawai'i P-20  
Hawai'i 3Rs  
Head Start Collaboration Office  
It's All About Kids  
\*INPEACE  
Joint Venture Education Forum  
Junior Achievement of Hawaii  
Kamehameha Schools  
Kanu Hawai'i  
\*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council  
Keiki to Career Kaua'i  
Kupu A'e  
\*Leaders for the Next Generation  
Learning First  
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds  
Native Hawaiian Education Council  
Our Public School  
\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning  
\*Parents and Children Together  
\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i  
\*Teach for America  
The Learning Coalition  
US PACOM  
University of Hawai'i College of Education  
YMCA of Honolulu

*Voting Members (\*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS  
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 8, 2021

TO: The Honorable Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
House Committee on Education

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 612 – RELATING TO EDUCATION.**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 2:00 p.m.  
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this measure, requests clarification, and provides comments.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the bill requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children. Requires the summer learning coordinator to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.

DHS respectfully requests clarification of how the Legislature would like the DHS administered federal funds to be used as there are limitations on the purposes for which such funds may be used.

Temporary Assistance for Needing Families (TANF) program federal and State Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funds may not be used for any educational activities that are components of the State's free public education system. Consequently, if the Legislature codifies in statute that the Department of Education (DOE) provide additional summer programs, then the programs would be considered part of the DOE system and TANF funds would not be available to support the administration of the summer program.

Currently TANF funding provides subsidies for TANF-eligible families in the A-Plus afterschool program under TANF Purposes 1 and 2 so that the children of low-income working families may be cared for so parents can continue with their employment. Although the A-Plus program is part of the DOE system, it is classified as license-exempt child care, and subsidies are paid on behalf of employed TANF-eligible families and are not paid directly to DOE for any costs associated with administering the A-Plus program.

TANF also provides funding for the UPLINK afterschool program for DOE middle and intermediate school students under TANF Purpose 3 so that these children are able to engage in positive activities that reduces the chances of children engaging in risky behaviors that lead to teen pregnancy during the least supervised time of the weekdays (afterschool through 5 PM).

Schools with UPLINK programs are not allowed to provide any activities and services that are part of the general free public education system. However, if UPLINK schools have the resources and funds available at the end of the school year, the school may extend their UPLINK Program into the summer break for no more than six weeks and are only allowed to provide remediation support to facilitate promotion to the next grade level, such as tutoring services and activities that support eighth and ninth grade students who are transitioning to high school in the upcoming school year.

If DOE develops a summer program and structures it like A-Plus where there is a fee charged for students to attend and there are no activities or services that may be considered part of the school system, then TANF funds may be used to subsidize the summer program fees for TANF eligible families. Again, the subsidies would be paid on behalf of eligible families. TANF funds cannot be paid directly to DOE.

From a child care perspective, federal child care subsidies are available for child care that occurs *after* the summer school instruction class ends at public or private elementary schools. The federal Child Care and Development Block Grant/Child Care Development Fund (CCDBG/CCDF), including the Child Care Connection Hawaii (CCCH) subsidy program, provides funds to assist with the child care activities and cannot be used toward educational purposes.



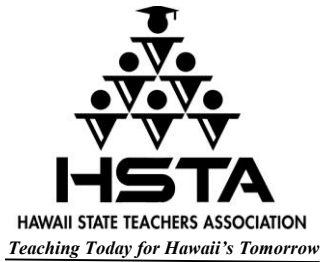
Summer child care programs for students at public schools are operated by the vendor that the individual school chooses or partners with; these vendors would not necessarily be operating the A-Plus program through the A-Plus contract that the DOE generally procures.

If the summer child care is provided by a school-age child care provider, who may not be legally required to be licensed by the department, for example YMCA or Kamaaina Kids, the school-age child care provider would still need to meet the DHS requirements in order for a family to receive CCCH the federal CCCH child care subsidy assistance. These school-age providers may transport children from the school campus to their own facility for the summer child care portion or they may utilize the public school campus, based on the agreements in place between the school and the school-age provider.

If the summer child care is provided by DOE employees at the school campus, the DOE employees would need to meet the DHS requirements in order for a family to receive the federal CCCH child care subsidy.

DHS is currently working toward implementation in calendar year 2021 of the monitoring of legally exempt providers that care for children whose family receives DHS child care subsidy assistance. The process of monitoring legally exempt programs will include annual site visits to verify compliance with minimum health and safety requirements and initial and on-going training for staff, in addition to the existing comprehensive background checks of staff.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



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## TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: HB 612 - RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Woodson, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **opposes HB 612**, relating to the Department of Education. This bill requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children. Requires the summer learning coordinator to leverage certain **federal funds** for school-based summer programs.

**The Hawaii State Teachers Association does not support the DOE's proposed use of \$63 million dollars of federal funds in the new COVID-19 relief package and annual federal spending bill for private tutors and summer school, while at the same time firing teachers and other school staff.** Hiring private tutors is a luxury we cannot afford right now, especially as the state contemplates firing more than 1,000 educators. **The recent federal stimulus money that has been allocated to the HIDOE should be returned to schools via the weighted student formula and special education funding, to allow principals to retain their current qualified teachers and other support staff at their schools, not hire private tutors.** HSTA has asked that the BOE modify the DOE request to follow federal law and to make sure next year our keiki have the qualified teachers and other staff at their schools that are so important for their continual learning and well-being.

To ensure our students are provided a quality education through certified educators, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks that your committee to **oppose** this bill.



**TO: Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the House Committee on Education**

**FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO of Parents And Children Together (PACT)**

**DATE/LOCATION: February 9, 2021; 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309/Video Conference**

**RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 612– RELATING TO EDUCATION**

**We ask you to support HB 612 which requires the superintendent or designee to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children and to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.** We support this bill which will help to maximize summer programs that can address COVID learning loss, maximize funding opportunities and, with proper coordination, ensure equity of access to services for our most vulnerable students.

Participation in summer programs provide a wide range of immediate and long-term benefits, that include improved academic performance and overall better social and economic well-being. It is particularly important, with learning loss due to COVID shutdowns and the shift to virtual learning, to make sure that we can be proactive in planning for robust and coordinated summer learning programs.

Summer learning programs will be critical for our keiki but particularly for many of our students who often are affected the most. These students, from our most vulnerable populations, will benefit from having a coordinated system of care where the focus can be on maximizing seats and prioritizing access instead of just on a “first come, first served” basis. Coordinated services will streamline processes, maximize and leverage funding opportunities and provide equal opportunities for the most impacted and vulnerable students.

Founded in 1968, Parents And Children Together (PACT) is one of Hawaii’s not-for-profit organizations providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to families in need. Assisting more than 15,000 people across the state annually, PACT helps families identify, address and successfully resolve challenges through its 18 programs. Among its services are: early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, childhood sexual abuse supportive group services, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, sex trafficking intervention, poverty prevention and community building programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of HB 612**, please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or [rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org](mailto:rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org) if you have any questions.

LATE

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 7:16:02 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Pcola_Davis	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

i OPPOSE THIS BILL because of the way the Summer Learning program was put together and I have no assurances that this will be replicated for Summer 2021.

I am in favor of a FULL summer school program(s) for upcoming summer 2021, as determined by student needs.

As for learning loss, students do not have the luxury of waiting until summer.

However, the DOE has plans to move forward with hiring one to one tutors and at the same time reporting approximately 25,000 students will need this type of support.

Although last year's Summer Learning program was presented and reported as very successful by to DOE to the BOE and the public, there were large inequalities. Notices for applying for summer schools and types of programs were limited and untimely. My opinion was that the application for students that struggled and needed help due to the 4th quarter school closure **were not even considered.**

The availability was mostly addressing Credit Recovery. You would have to go back and review what was actually available to see the short fallings.

The DOE consistently presents their successes in what worked **BUT THAT'S** not true for lessons learned.

For example, the use of the Acellus platform was initially and for the most part **ONLY used for summer credit recovery.**

When the DOE found itself without an online distance learning platform, **they fell back on Acellus for distance learning.** Not all schools decided to use this as their platform. Department of Education finally did a complete review of the program. Final decision was to remove it from all schools by this summer. This decision did not come easily for parents, many hours were spent on PROVING the program was bogus, yet the DOE had used it for 10 years for credit recovery and seniors graduated.



LATE

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 9:13:56 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Catherine Scardino	DHS (HMS BESSD)	Support	No

Comments:

I will be available to respond to questions from committee members.

LATE

**HB-612**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 10:25:36 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/9/2021 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Debra Pratt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela and members of the committee,

I SUPPORT HB612. Summer-time learning is such an important opportunity for students to catch up on their academics and/or to be engaged through enrichment activities. The State's investment in one coordinator position would yield better coordination and leveraging of federal and state funds. This summer will be especially critical in leveraging support for Hawaii's keiki.