



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

**Date:** 02/03/2021

**Time:** 03:00 PM

**Location:** 229

**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 0812 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 SB 812. 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 pilot program 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.

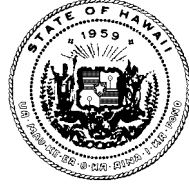
Given the existing Board policy providing the Superintendent with discretion over summer school programming and the existing pilot program, we believe this measure is

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 SB 812.

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).

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 2, 2021

TO: The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 812 – RELATING TO EDUCATION**

Hearing: Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 3:00 p.m.  
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

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

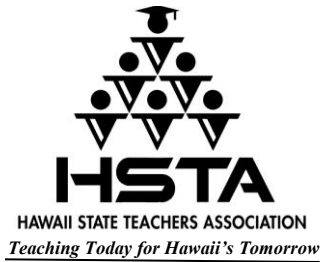
Summer child care programs for students at public schools are operated by the vendor that the individual school chooses or partners with; these vendors would not necessarily be operating the A-Plus program through the A-Plus contract that the DOE generally procures.

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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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 812 - RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **opposes SB 812**, 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.

## Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

1776 University Avenue, WA1-102  
Honolulu, HI 96822



Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00PM  
Conference Room 229

Re: Support of Senate Bill 812 Relating to Education

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports Senate Bill 812 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 SB812 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



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: Senate Committee on Education

Re: **SB 812- Relating to education**  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 229  
February 3, 2021, 3:00 PM

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and committee members,

**On behalf of Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in support of SB 812, 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 SB 812 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 SB 812.

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>



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Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00PM  
Conference Room 229

Re: Support of Senate Bill 812 Relating to Education

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the committee,

After-School All-Stars Hawaii supports Senate Bill 812 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 SB812 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

# Hawai'i Arts Alliance



*Affiliated with the  
Wolf Trap Institute for Early  
Childhood Arts Integration*

*State Captain –  
Americans for the Arts*

*Member of State Arts  
Advocacy Network*

February 2, 21

Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00PM  
Conference Room 229

Re: Support of Senate Bill 812 Relating to Education

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i Arts Alliance supports Senate Bill 812 which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children.

The Bill requires that the summer learning coordinator leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.

The Hawaii Arts Alliance has been working with the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance to provide arts programming for afterschool educators for the children. The pandemic lockdown has adversely affect students' learning and social-emotional wellbeing. The DOE needs to provide support for charter and public school students, especially the most vulnerable and those coming from low-income families whose parents are essential workers.

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.
- Afford the opportunity to engage in the arts which improves student mental health and social-emotional learning.

Coordinated services between the DOE, Afterschool Alliance, and arts nonprofits would avoid duplication of efforts, strategically leverage federal and state funding, and ensure equity by replacing the "first-come, first-served" system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students.

In conclusion, the Hawai'i Arts Alliance supports SB812 and respectfully urges the passage of this Bill so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony,

Teri Skillman  
Executive Director

P.O. Box 3948  
Honolulu, Hawai'i  
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Phone: (808) 533-2787  
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arts@hawaiiartsalliance.org  
www.hawaiiartsalliance.org



# Kaho'omiki

Hawai'i Council on Physical Activity & Nutrition

February 1, 2021

To: Chair Kidani  
Vice Chair Mercado Kim  
Senate Committee on Education

Re: **Strong Support for SB812**

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

Thank you for your dedication to our keiki and for this opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support of SB812**, 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 youth.

There is extensive evidence showing the benefit of summer programs for children's social, emotional, and academic well-being. 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 **SB812**.

Sincerely,

Colby Takeda  
President & Chair of the Board

Kahoomiki.org

P.O. Box 22207 | Honolulu, HI 96823

**SB-812**

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 10:50:54 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jim Crisafulli	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 812**

**THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2021 - STATE OF HAWAII**

February 1, 2021

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Education Committee:

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 812, 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)





**TO: Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education**

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

**DATE/LOCATION: February 3, 2021; 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 229**

**RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 812– RELATING TO EDUCATION**

**We ask you to support SB 812 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 SB 812**, please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or [rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org](mailto:rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org) if you have any questions.

**SB-812**

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 1:53:10 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lauralee Baoy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Committee on Education**

**Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair**

**Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair**

**Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00PM**

**Conference Room 229**

**Re: Support of Senate Bill 812 Relating to Education**

**Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the committee,**

**I support Senate Bill 812 which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children and requires the summer learning coordinator to leverage certain federal funds for school-based summer programs.**

**COVID-19 learning loss needs to be addressed by providing strong support to our school students, especially the most vulnerable and those coming from low-income families. We have found that many families that are in our Kalihi Community have not accessed online learning platforms for school and youth have drastically fallen behind in their studies since March 2020. Some of this has to do with families not being familiar with digital learning platforms or use of digital devices such as Ipads and chromebooks.**

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



- **Provide 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.**

**I support SB812 and respectfully urge the passage of this bill so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need. Thank you.**

**Sincerely,**

**Lauralee Baoy**

**Youth Development Specialist**

**Community Teen Program**

**Parents and Children Together**



Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Kim, Vice Chair

February 3, 2021,

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee,

This testimony is submitted **in support for SB812**, 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	Keiki to Career Kaua'i
After-School All-Stars Hawai'i	Kupu A'e
Alliance for Place Based Learning	*Leaders for the Next Generation
*Castle Complex Community Council	Learning First
*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS	McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds
*Education Institute of Hawai'i	Native Hawaiian Education Council
*Faith Action for Community Equity	Our Public School
Fresh Leadership LLC	*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning
Girl Scouts Hawaii	*Parents and Children Together
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation	*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i
*HawaiiKidsCAN	Punahou School PUEO Program
*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance	*Teach for America
*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice	The Learning Coalition
*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists	US PACOM
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars	University of Hawai'i College of Education
*Hawai'i Children's Action Network	YMCA of Honolulu
Hawai'i Education Association	<i>Voting Members (*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.</i>
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	

**SB-812**

Submitted on: 2/2/2021 6:58:04 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
De Austin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Committee on Education

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00PM

Conference Room 229

Re: Support of Senate Bill 812 Relating to Education

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports Senate Bill 812 which requires the superintendent to serve as the summer learning coordinator and coordinate all summer programs for children.

This active and focused position will leverage federal funds so that those monies can be strategized into programs which support our children during summer, which is a time of opportunity as well as need for our families in Hawaii.

Summer programs provide a much needed service for our children, especially those from low-income and low-opportunity areas.

Summer programs help to close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning, opportunities for exposure to new ideas and careers, and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss due to school closures and disrupted schedules.

Summer programs also can support student mental health by connecting young people with caring mentors who are trained to help youth build healthy relationships and heal from trauma.

Physical activity is especially important now as many students are in virtual or hybrid-learning and children have limited options for daily exercise. A strong summer program can fulfill this need with physical activity and wellness activities.

A strong and funded summer program can ensure child safety, offering families a safe place for children to learn while allowing parents to return to work or take time to seek employment.

A coordinated summer program across the state is a vital way to ensure that Hawaii and its families can be assured that our state legislature is supporting Hawaii's development of the new normal, post-COVID, with wage earners having the time to seek employment and our children getting the educational and social-emotional support they need.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Dezireen Austin

UPLINK Program Coordinator,

Maui, Hawaii

**SB-812**

Submitted on: 1/30/2021 12:44:21 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Pcola_Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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 presented and reported as very successful by to DOE to the BOE, 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 bayou its well but 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. However, many did. After thousands of pages of testimony at the BOE and pleading to Senators and Representatives, the BOE 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.



**SB-812**

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 12:40:55 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the committee,**

**The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports Senate Bill 812 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 supports SB812 and respectfully urge the passage of this bill so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**Sincerely,**

Melody Halzel

**SB-812**

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 4:05:28 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alani Bagcal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair**

**Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair**

**Senate Committee on Education**

**Dear Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kim, and esteemed members of the committee:**

**My name is Alani Bagcal and I am writing today in support for SB812.**

**I believe that summer learning programs are a critical opportunity for our students to make academic gains and experience opportunities to develop their passion, creativity and leadership skills. I would not be where I am today without such learning programs that have given me a great sense of community and how I impact it. I think through the pandemic, it is more important than ever to have coordinated effort around summer programs to address the trauma of learning loss, and give kids access to the support they need to emerge from this crisis with agency and hope for the future.**

**Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support for this bill,**

**Alani Bagcal**

**96815**

**SB-812**

Submitted on: 2/2/2021 9:27:14 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Puanani Woo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because I believe in the summer learning programs have. It has always been a critical opportunity for our students to make academic gains and experience opportunities that develop their innovation, creativity, and leadership skills. I know that during Covid times is hard but I think that as a state we should try to help our keiki!

**SB-812**

Submitted on: 2/2/2021 10:42:02 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Crystal Robello	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in strong support of this Bill.

**SB-812**

Submitted on: 2/2/2021 10:12:50 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Elento	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Aloha, Thank you for considering including funding and services in the budget and plan to provide for students with disabilities who need services to participate in summer programs and afterschool programs, including charter schools. The state receives federal funding and must comply with Section 504, ADA Title II, and state laws which mandate such student services and the state is required to provide them, including for charter school students. Lack of federal funding is no excuse to not provide an equal opportunity for students with disabilities.

**SB-812**

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 7:55:52 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/3/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Colleen Rost-Banik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I'm writing in support of SB812. Summer learning opportunities are critically important to the state's youth, and thus providing adequate funding for coordination of these programs is essential.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Colleen Rost-Banik

Lecturer, University of Hawai'i system