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

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FOR: HB 1221 Relating to Charter Schools
DATE: February 11, 2021
TIME: 3:00 P.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Education
ROOM: Conference Room 309
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in strong **SUPPORT of HB 1221** which amends HRS §302D-32 to allow charter school authorizers to provide a list of approved independent auditors instead of selecting three independent auditors.

The requested amendment would allow the Commission to approve more than three independent auditors to conduct audits for the 37 charter schools that operate on five islands across the state.

In order to meet the requirements of HRS §302D-32, the Commission has already conducted a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process to identify three approved independent auditors. However, the Commission has requested this amendment based on concerns and feedback from charter schools, particularly neighbor island charter schools, on the availability of these audit services on their islands. Should this measure be passed, the Commission would reopen the RFQ process to review and approve additional auditors.

The Commission looks forward to collaborating with the committee, other interested stakeholders, and public charter schools in moving this legislation forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

HB-1221

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 3:00:10 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaimi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill I want to requires charter school authorizers to provide a list of approved independent auditors, rather than selecting three independent auditors, from which their respective charter school is to select an independent auditor for its annual financial audit. it best for us all not just the commission.

HB-1221

Submitted on: 2/11/2021 8:23:27 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark A. Koppel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

WRITING IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB1221

MARK KOPPEL

UMAUMA, HI

Aloha Honorable Legislators,

I am writing in strong support of HB1221, abolishing the ADC. In all its years of existence, the ADC has done NOTHING for the local farmer. It has helped giant agribusiness, which is the last place that needs help, and should not be in Hawaii at all.

Please vote to abolish the ADC.

Mahalo!!

Mark Koppel

Umauma, HI