

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 9:36:24 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Keith Hayashi	Hawaii Department of Education	Support	Yes

Comments:

Support



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Education
Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

By

Nathan Murata, Dean
College of Education

And

Michael Bruno, PhD
Provost

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 1699 – RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 1699, relating to after-school programs.

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, College of Education supports HB 1699 relating to after-school programs for middle and intermediate school students. After-school programs provide middle and intermediate students a means to receive additional resources for enrichment, athletics, culture and health programs as part of their overall educational experiences. After-school programs and activities may also reverse high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community.

Thank you for allowing our testimony on HB 1699.



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

Date: 02/08/2022

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: 309 Via Videoconference

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1699 RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the department of education's resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Center.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1699 and offers comments on this measure.

The Department's Community Engagement Branch is responsible for the administration, compliance, and monitoring of quality after-school programs funded through state and federal programs, including the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers, After-school Plus, UPLINK, R.E.A.C.H, and Out-of-School Time American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief programs. The Department agrees the demand for quality after-school programs far exceeds the current supply and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has added to the need. Furthermore, quality programs accessible to middle and intermediate students are critical to their development. The additional appropriated funds could be used to expand the existing partnerships, collaboration, and efforts to support Hawaii's youth in the out-of-school time hours to increase access and positive outcomes for Hawaii youth.

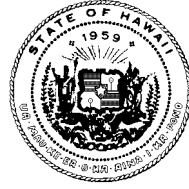
The Department is concerned about its capacity to implement such a large-scale increase in the size of the R.E.A.C.H. program given its current staffing and commitments to its other federal and state-funded after-school programs. For example, existing federal funds (i.e. UPLINK) are accessible and prioritized for Title I-designated

middle and intermediate schools. UPLINK currently funds 34 schools across the state and through the Memorandum of Understanding for UPLINK with the Department of Human Services, the Department has continued to expand the number of schools in the program.

The Department appreciates the appropriation to expand its after-school programs. The Department asks that costs for program administration, implementation, monitoring and compliance, technical assistance, and evaluation also be considered and that any new initiatives do not displace the Department's priority to stabilize and restore funding for positions and basic services that were reduced for Fiscal Year 2023 due to the impact of COVID-19.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 1699.

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 7, 2022

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

The Honorable Sean Quinlan, Chair
House Committee on Economic Development

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 1699 – RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.**

HEARING: Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 2:00 pm
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this measure as it will ensure after-school programs continue to be available to students. DHS defers to the Department of Education (DOE). DHS respectfully requests that any appropriation not replace or reduce priorities identified in the executive budget.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Center.

The REACH program is an after-school program of the DOE that supports middle and intermediate school students with their academics, improves their attendance and behaviors, and enriches their learning with various extra-curricular activities.

DHS supports after-school programs such as REACH and the 21st Century Community Learning Center because they provide students with safe and structured environments that help to reduce risky behaviors, promote social and emotional learning, and support working

families. The appropriation will ensure the REACH program will continue to be available to DOE middle and intermediate school students.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1699

February 8, 2022
2:00 p.m.
Room 309 and Videoconference

RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

House Bill No. 1699 appropriates \$6,123,398 in general funds for FY 23 for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Center.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

1776 University Avenue, WA1-102
Honolulu, HI 96822



House Committee on Education
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
Representative Jeanné Kapela, Vice Chair

February 8, 2022
Conference Room 309

RE: Support of HB1699 Relating to After-School Programs

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

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports HB1699 to appropriate funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Afterschool is an essential part of our communities' response to the coronavirus pandemic, and programs will continue to play a critical role throughout recovery.

For years, afterschool programs have kept kids safe, inspired them to learn, and offered parents peace of mind that their children are constructively engaged in the hours between the end of the school day and when parents return from work.

Yet, in Hawai'i, the America After 3PM 2020 report found that for every child in an afterschool program, 2 are waiting to get in, with 35,067 children alone and unsupervised after school.

Afterschool is Evidence-Based and Proven Effective

Working together, schools, afterschool programs, and community partners are better positioned to accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning, especially students who have been historically underserved and those with special needs.

Comprehensive afterschool programs apply evidence based practices to support the needs of youth, families, and communities. Decades of data show these programs:

- Accelerate students' learning gains and improve their reading and math skills
- Engage youth in learning and boost school attendance
- Support social and emotional development
- Prevent youth violence
- Boost on-time graduation

More funding for the REACH program will help to expand comprehensive, high quality afterschool offerings and meet the growing needs of our students and families.

In 2016, the State of Hawai'i requested the Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE) to convene a working group to review afterschool programs in Hawai'i's public middle and intermediate schools and make recommendations to the Legislature. The group came to the conclusion that there is an immediate need to increase the funding for out-of-school programs to provide services to all the children and youth that need and/or would like to participate in a program. Out-of-school programs work as a safety net to support students' success by creating a safe environment where they can thrive. The [document](#) produced by the group highlighted the importance of focusing on transportation, athletics, and accommodation for students with special needs.

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students have the support they need during the out-of-school time hours. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

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



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

Committee on Economic Development
Representative Sean Quinlan, Chair
Representative Daniel Holt, Vice Chair

February 8, 2022

Dear Chairs Woodson and Quinlan, Vice Chairs Kapela and Holt, and Members of the Committees,

We support HB 1699, which appropriates funds for the department of education's resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Center.

Afterschool programs can provide this structure as well as be a safe place where teens can build confidence. Studies show that afterschool programs can contribute to higher grades and test scores, better attendance records, lower drop-out rates and an increase in positive attitudes and behaviors.¹ After school programs can also have benefits to families including better connection between parents, children and communities, and improved relationships between parents and children.²

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

¹ Decker, L. E., et al. (2000). *Engaging families & communities, pathways to educational success*. Boca Raton, FL: National Community Educational Association, Florida Atlantic University.

² Harris, E. & Wimer, C. (2004, April). *Engaging with families in out-of-school time learning, No. 4*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Family Research Project.



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

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/6/2022 3:44:44 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alec Marentic	Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists	Support	No

Comments:

HASP supports this measure to increase resources for enrichment activities such as athletics, cultural experiences, and health programs. These programs provide positive experiences for children, and after school programs can provide after school care and safety while caregivers are still at work.

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/6/2022 8:54:56 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michael Ching, MD, MPH	American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter	Support	No

Comments:

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

The American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter supports HB1699 relating to after school programs. We see in our practices the significant impact that after school programs have on children. They provide opportunities for social interaction, homework help, and physical activity. After school programs are also necessary to help many working families with child care. This program would strengthen after school programs by appropriating matching funds for federal dollars in the 21st Century Community Learning Center. We urge passage of this legislation and are grateful for the opportunity to testify.

Michael Ching, MD, MPH, FAAP
President
American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter



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

Hawaii 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: Representative Woodson, Chair
Representative Kapela, Vice Chair
House Committee on Education

Re: **HB 1699-relating to after-school programs**
2:00 PM, February 8, 2022

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and committee members,

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in support of HB 1699, relating to after-school programs.

Afterschool programming is incredibly important to working families. Having a safe, nurturing place to go afterschool is what allows their parents to work. But afterschool programs are too limited to serve all the families needing help. For some families, this means they must choose between shortening work hours (if they can) or leaving their child unsupervised. For middle and intermediate school students, programs like R.E.A.C.H (resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health), help provide structured activities during out of school time.

More funding for the R.E.A.C.H program will help to expand comprehensive, high quality afterschool offerings and meet the growing needs of our students and families. For these reasons, I respectfully request the committee vote favorably on HB 1699.

Thank you,
Kathleen Algire
Director of Early Learning and Health Policy



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

asashawaii.org

Committee on Education
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair
Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair
Tuesday, February 8, 2022 2:00PM
Conference Room 309

Re: Support of House Bill 1699 Relating to After-School Programs

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

After-School All-Stars Hawaii supports House Bill 1699 which seeks to appropriate funds for the resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health program of the department of education.

The weekday, after-school hours of 3 pm to 6 pm are considered the danger hours for youth, where they are three times more likely to engage in violent crime, drug-taking, alcohol consumption and sexual activity. Middle and intermediate-aged youth are especially at risk, as afterschool program opportunities for this age group are not as widely available as elementary and high school-aged youth.

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

After-school programs can help to:

- 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.

In conclusion, After-School All-Stars Hawaii supports House Bill 1699 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".

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



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: Tuesday, February 8, 2022; 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309/Videoconference

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1699 RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

We ask you to support HB 1699 which appropriates funds for the department of education's resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Center. We thank the legislature for prioritizing our keiki and recognizing the importance of providing positive, engaging options for out-of-school time programming as an extension of our public education system, particularly as we attempt to fill some of the gaps exacerbated by the pandemic. These programs support the overall health of our keiki and our communities and can help to reduce future public costs associated with welfare, juvenile/adult incarceration, rehabilitation and healthcare. Participation in afterschool programs provide a wide range of immediate and long-term benefits, that include improved academic performance, reduced risky behavior, reduced drug use, improved health, and overall better social and economic well-being.

For Hawaii's 75% of working families with children, a majority agree that having after school programs allows them to keep their jobs and their peace of mind knowing that their children are cared for in an afterschool program. These programs ensure that students are kept in a safe environment, while being engaged in fun and educational activities that allows them to practice healthy values. It is of crucial importance that we invest in programs that dedicate their services to ensure a safe and happy environment for the growth and development of our keiki, especially due to the fact that students have experienced learning loss and social challenges, and afterschool program options have dwindled during the pandemic. Allowing our children to engage in and express themselves in through positive, supplemental programming instills healthy values that they will carry with them for generations to come. Many students take comfort in their schools as their second homes, and it would be beneficial to support that view with the security of out-of-school-time resources in place.

Parents And Children Together is just one of the many organizations who offer prevention and intervention programs to ensure healthy environments for children and families in Hawaii. This is also a key component to our war on intergenerational poverty. Children in Hawaii, no matter what their circumstance, deserve safe places to learn, strong mentors and hope.

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 under-resourced families. Assisting more than 17,000 people across the state annually, PACT helps families identify, address and successfully resolve challenges through its 20 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 strengthening programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of HB 1699**, please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org if you have any questions.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 904 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Carole Gruskin, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawaii

Big Island Substance Abuse Council

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Collins Consulting, LLC

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Maui

Get Ready Hawai'i

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action Network

Hawaii Health & Harm

Reduction Center

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Kokua Ohana Aloha (KOA)

Maui Youth and Family Services

Na Pu'uwai Molokai Native

Hawaiian Health Care Systems

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

PHOCUSED

PFLAG - Kona Big Island

Planned Parenthood of the

Great Northwest and

Hawaiian Islands

Residential Youth Services

& Empowerment (RYSE)

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community

Center

The Catalyst Group

February 7, 2022

To: Representative Justin Woodsoni, Chair,
And members of the Committee on Education

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1699 RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

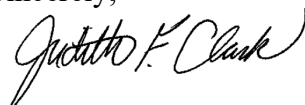
Hawaii Youth Services Network, a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 1699 Relating to After-School Programs.

High quality after-school programs are effective in reducing the risk of a variety of undesirable behaviors among children and adolescents, including unplanned pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, juvenile crime, and substance abuse. They can increase school achievement, reduce dropout rates, and provide service learning opportunities that teach young people the value of contributing back to their communities.

Hawaii has the highest percentage of households in the United States in which all adults are employed. These working families need after school programs to ensure that children are safe and engaged in productive activities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/4/2022 11:29:36 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alice Luck	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of this bill. We see a shortage of afterschool opportunities on Kauai that impacts youth development. We need to increase access to a variety of afterschool opportunities for our youth, as well as safe spaces after school. Many of our kids report having nothing enriching to do after school. This leads to depression, too much time spent on screens and social media, risk behaviors, and substance use. This funding will give kids positive outlets during out of school time, leading to fewer mental health issues, academic improvement, and greater likelihood of graduation and a successful transition to adulthood.

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/4/2022 11:45:15 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lauralee Baoy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

I support HB1699 to appropriate funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Afterschool is an essential part of our communities' response to the coronavirus pandemic, and programs will continue to play a critical role throughout recovery.

Afterschool programming is what I do for work. I work at Parents and Children together as a Youth Development specialist with our Community Teen program. We service youth 5 years old to 18 years old (school-aged children). I have seen first-hand that after school programming has a positive effect on the youth who participate, they engage with adults more, are more respectful towards others and tend to be open to learning new things. It is a safe place for them to express themselves whether it's their talents or concerns.

More funding for the REACH program will help to expand comprehensive, high quality afterschool offerings and meet the growing needs of our students and families.

I urge strongly the passage of this bill so that students have the support they need during the out-of-school time hours. Thank you.

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 10:13:37 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Tierney Barcarse	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My son participates in this afterschool program. As a middle schooler with an intellectual disability it provides him social opportunities in addition to learning and childcare so I can work.

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 1:20:14 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kristen Young	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

I support HB1699 to appropriate funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Afterschool programs are extremely beneficial to young students and their families, but especially during the coronavirus pandemic.

For years, afterschool programs have kept kids safe, inspired them to learn, and offered parents peace of mind that their children are constructively engaged in the hours between the end of the school day and when parents return from work.

Yet, in Hawai'i, the America After 3PM 2020 report found that for every child in an afterschool program, 2 are waiting to get in, with 35,067 children alone and unsupervised after school.

Working together, schools, afterschool programs, and community partners are better positioned to accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning, especially students who have been historically underserved and those with special needs.

Comprehensive afterschool programs apply evidence based practices to support the needs of youth, families, and communities. Decades of data show these programs:

- Accelerate students' learning gains and improve their reading and math skills
- Engage youth in learning and boost school attendance
- Support social and emotional development
- Prevent youth violence
- Boost on-time graduation

More funding for the REACH program will help to expand comprehensive, high quality afterschool offerings and meet the growing needs of our students and families.

I respectfully urge the passage of this bill so that students have the support they need during the out-of-school time hours. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Kristen Young
Honolulu resident
House District 25

House Committee on Education
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
Representative Jeanné Kapela, Vice Chair

February 8, 2022
Conference Room 309

RE: Support of HB1699 Relating to After-School Programs

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

I would like to express my support for HB1699 to appropriate funds from the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

For years, afterschool programs have kept kids safe, inspired them to learn in a variety of ways, and offered parents peace of mind that their children are constructively engaged in the hours between the end of the school day and when parents return from work.

When my two children were in the elementary grades, we had benefited from several afterschool organizations and activities. These programs allowed my husband and I to continue working at our full-time jobs with confidence knowing that our children were continuing to thrive, with trusted adults, alongside their peers. Furthermore, our children were able to explore new talents and skills that we celebrated when we attended a culminating performance or admired a project that they brought home. Now that our children are in college, they continue to show confidence to try new things, have respect and admiration for those who excel in arts or athletics, and participate in their college campus communities.

I firmly believe that afterschool programs contribute to the overall health of our communities and help lay the foundation for citizenship and developing productive, contributing members for our society. Support for such programs is even more essential now, as we strive to recover from the pandemic and evolve as a state. With an overwhelming demand for afterschool programs, this current generation of young children need additional support. Increased funding for the REACH program will help to expand comprehensive, high-quality afterschool offerings and help address the needs of our students and families.

I respectfully urge the passage of this bill so that students have the support they need during the out-of-school time hours. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Linda Venenciano

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 3:19:55 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cyd L. Hoffeld	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Cyd L. Hoffeld from Hilo and I **strongly support HB1699**. As a former A+ Program staff at Ernest B. De Silva Elementary School, I saw the benefits of having an adult supervised after-school program on the DOE campus. Students received assistance with homework, healthy snacks, and playtime with classmates while parents were comforted by knowing that their children were in a safe environment while they finished their work day.

Please vote for this important bill that takes care of our keiki, parents, and the economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of **HB1699**.

Cyd

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 4:07:00 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kathleen O'Dell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Education

Representative Justin Woodson, Chair

Representative Jeanné Kapela, Vice Chair

February 8, 2022

Conference Room 309

RE: Support of HB1699 Relating to After-School Programs

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

I support HB1699 to appropriate funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to match federal dollars that the State receives for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Afterschool is an essential part of our communities' response to the coronavirus pandemic, and programs will continue to play a critical role throughout recovery.

Many of our children do not have access to enrichment programs after school due to transportation and cost challenges. This is an area of inequity for our students at the greatest risk when it comes to academic, socio emotional, and physical success.

For years, afterschool programs have kept kids safe, inspired them to learn, and offered parents peace of mind that their children are constructively engaged in the hours between the end of the school day and when parents return from work.

Yet, in Hawai'i, the America After 3PM 2020 report found that for every child in an afterschool program, 2 are waiting to get in, with 35,067 children alone and unsupervised after school.

Afterschool is Evidence-Based and Proven Effective

Working together, schools, afterschool programs, and community partners are better positioned to accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning, especially students who have been historically underserved and those with special needs.

Comprehensive afterschool programs apply evidence based practices to support the needs of youth, families, and communities. Decades of data show these programs:

- **Accelerate students' learning gains and improve their reading and math skills**
- **Engage youth in learning and boost school attendance**
- **Support social and emotional development**
- **Prevent youth violence**
- **Boost on-time graduation**

More funding for the REACH program will help to expand comprehensive, high quality afterschool offerings and meet the growing needs of our students and families.

In 2016, the State of Hawai'i requested the Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE) to convene a working group to review afterschool programs in Hawai'i's public middle and intermediate schools and make recommendations to the Legislature. The group came to the conclusion that there is an immediate need to increase the funding for out-of-school

programs to provide services to all the children and youth that need and/or would like to participate in a program. Out-of-school programs work as a safety net to support students' success by creating a safe environment where they can thrive. The [document](#) produced by the group highlighted the importance of focusing on transportation, athletics, and accommodation for students with special needs.

I respectfully urge the passage of this bill so that students have the support they need during the out-of-school time hours. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Kathleen O'Dell

Kathleen O'Dell, PhD

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 9:05:48 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Colleen Rost-Banik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha. My name is Colleen Rost-Banik and I am a Lecturer within the University of Hawaii system and a resident of Honolulu. I urge you to support HB1699 which will create additional (and much needed) funds for Hawaii's after school programs.

Respectfully,
Colleen Rost-Banik

HB-1699

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 9:28:58 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jason Elento	Individual	Support	No

Comments: