

**HB-2277**

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 9:40:42 AM

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

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>            | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Remote Testimony Requested</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Keith Hayashi       | Hawaii Department of Education | Comments                  | Yes                               |

Comments:

Comments



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 2277 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates moneys to promote surfing as an interscholastic sport.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) recognizes the intent of HB 2277 and respectfully offers comments.

Since 2005, the Department has developed surfing regulations to implement surfing as a high school sport. In 2016, the Board of Education approved Board Policy 101-11 Surfing which established surfing as a high school sport.

While the Department appreciates the appropriations to support surfing in high school athletic programs, this would not address the larger risk factors that make surfing difficult for high schools to sanction. These risks include concerns around accessible and safe surfing areas to conduct practices and the inability to control the practice environment. On Oahu, surfing has not been proposed by any high school principal and an informal survey to principals showed only 6 out of 23 principals interested in surfing as an interscholastic sport on Oahu.

The Department appreciates this proposal and the inclusion of funding but asks that any additional funding does not affect the Department's top budget priorities to restore funds that were reduced as a result of the fiscal fallout from COVID-19 and the funding of existing budget shortfalls that were included in the Department's supplemental budget request. Without those funds, the Department will face severe constraints on its ability to continue to promote equity and access to needed resources and support for all students.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2277.

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. 2277

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

RELATING TO EDUCATION

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

House Bill No. 2277 appropriates an unspecified sum of general funds for FY 23 to the Department of Education to promote and support surfing as an interscholastic sport.

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.

KEITH Y. AMEMIYA  
P.O. BOX 3590  
HONOLULU, HI 96811

February 7, 2022

Chair Woodson, Chair Quinlan, and Members of the Committee on Education and Economic Development:

I'm Keith Amemiya, former Executive Director of the Hawaii High School Athletic Association and current Executive Director of the Central Pacific Bank Foundation, and I strongly support HB2277, which will provide funding for high school surfing in our public schools statewide.

Hawai'i is the birthplace of modern surfing, an integral part of our history, culture, and tradition, and is an extremely popular sport, including with our youth.

Already, our State has been at our country's forefront by introducing outrigger canoe paddling, judo, girls wrestling, and more as official high school sports, and all of them have thrived and provided our student-athletes with lifetime memories and even college and Olympic opportunities.

For over 10 years, current World Champion and inaugural Olympic Gold Medalist, Carissa Moore, her father, Chris, and I have worked to make Hawai'i high school surfing a reality.

Now, with the Legislature's help, we're as close as we've ever been to making this long-overdue dream happen for many public high school students statewide.

Based upon the above, I humbly ask for your support and to pass this measure forward.

Please let me know if you have any questions and mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Keith Y. Amemiya

**HB-2277**

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 1:41:54 PM

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

| Submitted By  | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Carissa Moore | Individual   | Support            | No                         |

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Woodson, Chair Quinlan and Members of the Committee on Education and Economic Development.*

*My name is Carissa Moore, and I stand in strong support of HB2277, the requisite bill needed to support high school surfing programs throughout Hawaii.*

*This past summer, I had the honor and dream of representing the state of Hawaii on the United States Olympic Surfing Team. The sport of surfing, one that I've dedicated most of my life to, is our own uniquely homegrown sport, one that's been adored by millions of people throughout every corner of the globe. Bill HB2277 would help open the door for surfing to be pursued as a serious and legitimate interscholastic sport in Hawaii's schools, which is something that Hawaii's children so desperately deserve.*

*From a financial point of view, one would be hard pressed to dismiss the economic attributes that this Bill would ultimately foster. When surfing thrives in Hawaii, so will local businesses. HB2277 is a Bill that has the unique ability to enhance our underserved youth directly alongside the hard working entrepreneurs of our state. I respectfully urge you to pass this measure forward, as embracing it would amount to a "win/win" for everyone concerned.*

*Thank you so much for the privilege of testifying.*

*Mahalo,*

*Carissa Moore*