

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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 2818

**February 4, 2022**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**Room 229 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO SUMMER EDUCATION

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

Senate Bill No. 2818 establishes 1.00 full-time equivalent position for a summer learning coordinator position within the Department of Education to coordinate all school-based summer programs for children and appropriates an unspecified sum in general funds for FY 23.

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.



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

**Date:** 02/04/2022

**Time:** 03:00 PM

**Location:** CR 229 & Videoconference

**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 2818 RELATING TO SUMMER EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education. Makes an appropriation to fund the position of Summer Learning Coordinator.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 2818. The Department appreciates the Legislature's commitment to providing the necessary support to coordinate summer learning.

The Hawaii State Board of Education (Board) Policy 500-18 states that summer school programs may be organized and conducted at the discretion of the superintendent or the superintendent's designee(s). It is now, more than ever, a priority to provide students who are most in need of academic support with extended learning opportunities during the summer to address the effects of the pandemic.

The Department agrees that additional capacity is needed to coordinate all summer learning programs. Currently, multiple offices and various program managers are involved in summer learning which makes connecting all summer learning opportunities and partnerships with community organizations challenging. A summer learning coordinator position would be able to establish a network of summer learning opportunities and ultimately offer a more cohesive summer learning approach for students and families.

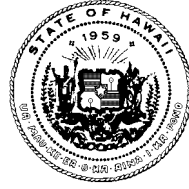
The Department appreciates this proposal and the inclusion of funding but asks that any additional funding does not affect the Department's top budget priorities to restore funds that were reduced as a result of the fiscal fallout from COVID-19 and the funding of

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.

The Department defers to the Department of Human Services in regards to any restrictions placed on the federal funds mentioned in the bill that are administered by their department.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 2818.

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 3, 2022

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

**FROM:** Cathy Betts, Director

**SUBJECT: SB 2818 – RELATING TO SUMMER EDUCATION**

**HEARING:** Friday, February 4, 2022, 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, and provides comments. The department defers to the Department of Education.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this measure is to establish the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education (DOE) and makes appropriation to fund the position. Requires the Summer Learning Coordinator to work with DHS to leverage federal funds for school-based summer programs for children.

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

The department may not use the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program federal and State Maintenance of Effort funds for any educational activities that are components of the State's free public education system. Consequently, if the Legislature codifies that DOE provides additional summer programs in statute, the programs would be

considered part of the DOE free public education system. Once part of the DOE system, 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 Purpose 1; this provides support for children of low-income working families so that 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. DHS pays the subsidies on behalf of employed TANF-eligible families; funds 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 can engage in positive activities that reduce 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, schools may extend their UPLINK program into the summer break for no more than six weeks. In addition, they 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 the A-Plus program 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, DHS pays the subsidies on behalf of the eligible TANF 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,

including the Child Care Connection Hawaii (CCCH) subsidy program, provides funds to assist with child care activities and cannot be used for 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 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 DHS, for example, YMCA or Kamaaina Kids, the school-age child care provider still needs to meet DHS requirements for a family to receive CCCH, the federal child care subsidy assistance. These school-age providers may transport children from the school campus to their facilities for the summer child care portion or utilize the public school campus, based on the agreements between the school and the school-age provider.

If DOE employees at the school campus provide summer child care, DOE employees would need to meet DHS requirements for a family to receive CCCH, the federal child care subsidy assistance.

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

## Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

1776 University Avenue, WA1-102  
Honolulu, HI 96822



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

February 4, 2022  
Conference Room 229

RE: Support of SB2818 Relating to Summer Education

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

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports SB2818 to establish the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education.

Summer learning programs have the power to be a game changer for youth. Programs can help students re-connect with peers and caring adults, re-engage in learning, and accelerate students' social, emotional, and academic recovery. Summer learning programs can serve as a lifeline particularly for families who, keeping kids safe, healthy, learning, and active—and ensuring parents are able to work or take time to seek employment.

High quality summer programs, particularly those that incorporate both learning and enrichment opportunities, promote positive youth development, college preparation, and career development outcomes, according to the [Wallace Foundation](#) and [Child Trends](#). Summer programs also:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss.
- 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.
- Work closely with school teachers as vital partners in providing summer learning opportunities for students.

The Hawai'i Department of Education needs more capacity to take a leadership role in coordinating all summer programs and providing support to schools. Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system



to target the most impacted and vulnerable students, better connect parents and students to programs, and effectively determine where the gaps are in summer opportunities.

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that the DOE and schools can provide the support students need during the summer months. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Paula Adams  
Executive Director  
Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance  
hawaiiafterschool@gmail.com  
[www.hawaiiafterschoolalliance.org](http://www.hawaiiafterschoolalliance.org)



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

February 4, 2022

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

This testimony is submitted **in support for SB 2818**, which establishes the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education and makes an appropriation.

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 and 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

---

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



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



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

To: Senator Kidani, Chair  
Senator Kim, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

Re: **SB 2818, Relating to summer education**  
3:00 PM, February 4, 2022

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and committee members,

On behalf of HCAN Speaks!, thank you for the opportunity to **testify in support of SB 2818, relating to summer education.**

Establishing a coordinator within the Department of Education will help reduce gaps in coverage areas, coordinate with the other state and county agencies to support summer learning programs, and increase opportunities for students. The pandemic has changed how we view education and child care. As a community, we are realizing that for there is no clear delineation between the two; that care happens in educational setting and education happens in care settings. And both are absolutely critical for our working families, especially during summer breaks. As an organization focused on supporting children and working families, we have witnessed the ongoing struggles and hardships faced when families need a safe and supportive environment for their child while they work and there aren't any. I applaud the work of our local organizations, like Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance, who have been working non-stop to try to improve access and affordability of these programs. For the past two years, we've seen intense collaboration between state and county entities trying to patchwork a system together, but this needs to be an ongoing, sustainable effort.

Families in Hawai'i want to send their children to summer programs but are worried about the program's costs. Additionally, families were also worried about children's socio-emotional well-being and academics.<sup>1</sup> Research shows that summer programs can<sup>2</sup>:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss.
- 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.

---

<sup>1</sup> Survey of parents in Hawai'i, 2021,  
[https://www.hawaiiafterschoolalliance.org/uploads/2/8/4/2/28427169/hawaii\\_afterschool\\_and\\_summer\\_program\\_needs\\_one\\_pager\\_-\\_final\\_1.pdf](https://www.hawaiiafterschoolalliance.org/uploads/2/8/4/2/28427169/hawaii_afterschool_and_summer_program_needs_one_pager_-_final_1.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Child Trends, 2009, *What works for summer learning programs for low-income children and youth: Preliminary lessons from experimental evaluations of social interventions.* <https://www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center/Documents/Effective-and-Promising-Summer-Learning-Programs-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

- 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.

Supporting SB 2818 allows for strategic and coordinated efforts to support our children and families. Let's make the investment to give families the summer programs they want and need. **For these reasons, HCAN Speaks! respectfully requests the Committee to support this measure.**

Thank you,

Kathleen Algire  
Director of Early Learning and Health Policy

Dear Legislature,

My name is Zhizi Xiong and I have a small afterschool program, CARES (CARE Arts & Recreation Education Services) in the Kapalama neighborhood and our program is registered with the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance's database. I testify in support of this bill.

Afterschool & summer programs are enriching, foundational, vital and necessary to a student's education. Afterschool & summer programs are proven by research data to support children's social emotions learning (SEL) skills and to heal from trauma. Why? Because during school, students learn about academics. But afterschool and during the holidays, students have extracurricular & recreational activities in which they can develop healthy relationships with their peers & teachers, process emotions, support each other and grow socially & emotionally. It is all part of a healthy growing process and the transition from student to adult.

There are a lot of social pressures, mental challenges and growing pains for students. Bullying, ostracizing, teasing, domestic abuse, these are the sources of trauma for a student. It is important to recognize the data evidence, as written in this bill, that students need support to heal from trauma. Student are not capable of processing and healing trauma on their own. As children, they do not have the social emotional learning (SEL) skills or psychology to be able to understand what they are going through or why they feel what they feel.

Trauma has an enormous impact on a student's mental acuity, study patterns, concentration and cognitive functioning. If the bill will help to address the inevitable trauma students must face at schools, the bill will have succeeded in contributing positively to Hawaii's students lives, uplifting student's spirits, boosting student's cognitive functions, creating mentally & emotionally strong keikis, and in return, it will help a student to excel academically and then become a positive contributor to society.

The bill notes, children from low-income households often experience the greatest gains from summer learning programs. This is because low-income households are the most vulnerable to trauma. Research shows poverty can cause poor mental health through social stress, stigma and trauma.

The legislature could appropriate funds to enrich the lives of the students who are impoverished with the unprecedented amount of funds to support public schools and summer learning programs. The money can supplement activities, art supplies, games, sport gear and different equipment to keep the students busy. When students are engaged in their learning, they are less likely to be involved in stirring up trouble or causing trauma. Appropriating funds to develop SEL training and trauma informed care would be in the fiscal interest of the legislature and DOE. It will fulfill the essential purpose and mission of the Department Of Education to develop academic achievement, character and social-emotional well-being of our students.

Blessings,  
Zhizi Xiong





2/1/2022  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 S Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

## SB2818 Relating to Summer Education

Members of the Committee on Education,

The Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists supports the intent of SB2818 to establish the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education.

Summer learning programs can have large impacts on children and youth. Such programming can help children re-connect with peers and caring adults, re-engage in learning, and augment student's social, emotional, and academic achievement. They can serve as a lifeline particularly for parents who must balance working and child learning and safety during summer break.

High quality summer programs, particularly those that incorporate learning and enrichment opportunities, promote positive youth development, college preparation, and career development outcomes (Wallace Foundation; Child Trends). They can also:

- Further reduce achievement gaps by providing students with additional time for learning paired with extra support
- Provide children access to mental and physical health
- Increase opportunities for physical activity and encouraging physical health and wellness
- Facilitate partnerships with school teachers as vital partners in planning and providing summer learning opportunities

The Hawai'i Department of Education needs more capacity to take a leadership role in coordinating all summer programs and providing support to schools. Coordinated cost-effective and comprehensive programming ensures equity by replacing the "first-come, first-served" recruitment system with one that will target the most impacted and vulnerable children. It will better connect parents and children to programs, and effectively determine where the gaps are in summer opportunities.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alec Marentic, NCSP  
President-Elect, Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists (HASP)  
Email: [hasp808@gmail.com](mailto:hasp808@gmail.com)



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

February 4, 2022  
Conference Room 229

RE: Support of SB2818 Relating to Summer Education

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

***Science Camps of America***, a Hawai'i-based 501(c)(3) non-profit, supports SB2818 to establish the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education.

Summer learning programs have the power to be a game changer for youth. Programs can help students re-connect with peers and caring adults, re-engage in learning, and accelerate students' social, emotional, and academic recovery. Summer learning programs can serve as a lifeline particularly for families who, keeping kids safe, healthy, learning, and active—and ensuring parents are able to work or take time to seek employment.

**Good summer learning programs are effective because education happens while students are so busy with fun, interactive activities that they don't even notice they are being taught. As one parent told me after one of our summer camps for middle school students, "my son told me he had so much fun he didn't realize how much he had learned."**

**We have worked with the DOE in the past providing workshops for classrooms, but our primary work is with our summer camps for middle and high school students. It would be great to have a "teammate" in the DOE to work with to make summer programs more accessible to more students here in Hawai'i.**

High quality summer programs, particularly those that incorporate both learning and enrichment opportunities, promote positive youth development, college preparation, and career development outcomes, according to the [Wallace Foundation](#) and [Child Trends](#). Summer programs also:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss.
- 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.

- Work closely with school teachers as vital partners in providing summer learning opportunities for students.

The Hawai'i Department of Education needs more capacity to take a leadership role in coordinating all summer programs and providing support to schools. Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, ensure equity by replacing the "first-come, first-served" recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students, better connect parents and students to programs, and effectively determine where the gaps are in summer opportunities.

**Science Camps of America** respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that the DOE and schools can provide the support students need during the summer months. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Richards". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Michael Richards  
Executive Director  
Science Camps of America  
<https://scicamp.org>  
[mike@scicamp.org](mailto:mike@scicamp.org)

**SB-2818**

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 5:54:52 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/4/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Clare M Hanusz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Senate Committee on Education**

**Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair**

**Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair**

**February 4, 2022**

**Conference Room 229**

**RE: Support of SB2818 Relating to Summer Education**

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

**I support SB2818 to establish the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education. Our public school kids need high quality summer programs and hiring an individual to coordinate these programs is important and a worthy use of tax payer funds.**

**Thank you,**

**Clare Hanusz**

**mother of 2 Hawaii public school graduates**

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

February 4, 2022  
Conference Room 229

RE: Support of SB2818 Relating to Summer Education

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

My name is Jolene Pascua, a graduate student at University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am a past YMCA Atherton Intern in support of SB2818 to establish the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education.

Summer learning programs have the power to be a game changer for youth. Programs can help students re-connect with peers and caring adults, re-engage in learning, and accelerate students' social, emotional, and academic recovery. Summer learning programs can serve as a lifeline particularly for families who, keeping kids safe, healthy, learning, and active—and ensuring parents are able to work or take time to seek employment.

Distance learning, and learning in general throughout this ongoing pandemic has taken a toll on many students' lives. Students do not get the same interaction as if they were in-person, and also do not get enough opportunities to gain learning experiences with distance learning. I strongly believe that this bill will greatly impact the students with a chance to gain back academic gains and experience opportunities that will develop their innovation, creativity, and leadership skills. Bill SB2818 would ensure that Hawai'i is making it's best efforts in coordinating programs to address learning loss, and give all students access to the support they need to emerge from this crisis strong, resilient and hopeful.

As a former intern at the YMCA, Atherton Branch, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impacts that youth programs have on students. Programs like the Y gives students the opportunity to gain developmental skills, academic skills, and even the chance to make connections with other students virtually. I believe that all summer programs for children all over Hawai'i will certainly be the support and guidance that they need especially during these hard times.

High quality summer programs, particularly those that incorporate both learning and enrichment opportunities, promote positive youth development, college preparation, and career development outcomes, according to the [Wallace Foundation](#) and [Child Trends](#). Summer programs also:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss.

- 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.
- Work closely with school teachers as vital partners in providing summer learning opportunities for students.

The Hawai'i Department of Education needs more capacity to take a leadership role in coordinating all summer programs and providing support to schools. Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, ensure equity by replacing the "first-come, first-served" recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students, better connect parents and students to programs, and effectively determine where the gaps are in summer opportunities.

*I, Jolene Mae Pascua, respectfully* urge the passage of this bill so that the DOE and schools can provide the support students need during the summer months. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jolene Mae Pascua  
Student/Intern  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa

**SB-2818**

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 10:47:15 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/4/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Crystal Robello	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Senate Committee on Education**

**Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair**

**Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair**

**February 4, 2022**

**Conference Room 229**

**RE: Support of SB2818 Relating to Summer Education**

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

**I am in support of this bill as a working parent of three children. I am in support of ongoing education and think that it is important for this to sustain. Hawai'i's youth should have many options for the summer, especially in regards to their education. With very limited options in our area, children can only stay home or be kept occupied electronically. This bill helps our children stay active and keep their minds active as well. This is why I highly support this program and would like to see it happen for communities statewide.**

**Mahalo,**

**Crystal**

**SB-2818**

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 8:29:33 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/4/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Lehua Kaulukukui	Testifying for Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium	Support	No

Comments:

**Senate Committee on Education**

**Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair**

**Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair**

**February 4, 2022**

**Conference Room 229**

**RE: Support of SB2818 Relating to Summer Education**

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

**Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium of North and West Hawai'i supports SB2818 to establish the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education.**

**Summer learning programs have the power to be a game changer for youth. Programs can help students re-connect with peers and caring adults, re-engage in learning, and accelerate students' social, emotional, and academic recovery. Summer learning programs can serve as a lifeline particularly for families who, keeping kids safe, healthy, learning, and active—and**



ensuring parents are able to work or take time to seek employment.

High quality summer programs, particularly those that incorporate both learning and enrichment opportunities, promote positive youth development, college preparation, and career development outcomes, according to the [Wallace Foundation](#) and [Child Trends](#). Summer programs also:

- Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss.
- 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.
- Work closely with school teachers as vital partners in providing summer learning opportunities for students.

The Hawai'i Department of Education needs more capacity to take a leadership role in coordinating all summer programs and providing support to schools. Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students, better connect parents and students to programs, and effectively determine where the gaps are in summer opportunities.

Puakalehua Consortium respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that the DOE and schools can provide the support students need during the summer months. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lehua Kaulukukui, Chair

Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium

Puakalehua Steering Committee

<https://www.puakalehua.org>

**puakalehuaconsortium@gmail.com**

**SB-2818**

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 2:50:31 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/4/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Tonya Ketzka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Senate Committee on Education**

**Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair**

**Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair**

**February 4, 2022**

**Conference Room 229**

**RE: Support of SB2818 Relating to Summer Education**

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

**I support SB2818 to establish the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education.**

**Summer learning programs have the power to be a game changer for youth. Programs can help students re-connect with peers and caring adults, re-engage in learning, and accelerate students' social, emotional, and academic recovery. Summer learning programs can serve as a lifeline particularly for families who, keeping kids safe, healthy, learning, and active—and ensuring parents are able to work or take time to seek employment.**

**Without summer learning programs, I would not be able to continue to work and contribute to society in my role as a public servant. My children have benefited tremendously from the mentorship of summer youth leaders. The programs have kept them active, taught them valuable team work skills, and many other life skills that they would not have otherwise.**

**High quality summer programs, particularly those that incorporate both learning and enrichment opportunities, promote positive youth development, college preparation, and career development outcomes, according to the [Wallace Foundation](#) and [Child Trends](#). Summer programs also:**

- **Close the achievement gap by providing students with more time for deeper learning and the extra help they need to recover from learning loss.**
- **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.**
- **Work closely with school teachers as vital partners in providing summer learning opportunities for students.**

**The Hawai'i Department of Education needs more capacity to take a leadership role in coordinating all summer programs and providing support to schools. Coordinated services avoid duplication of efforts, ensure equity by replacing the “first-come, first-served” recruitment system to target the most impacted and vulnerable students, better connect parents and students to programs, and effectively determine where the gaps are in summer opportunities.**

**I respectfully urge the passage of this bill so that the DOE and schools can provide the support students need during the summer months. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**Sincerely,**

Tonya Ketz

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

February 4, 2022  
Conference Room 229

RE: Support of SB2818 Relating to Summer Education

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and members of the Committee,

I support SB2818 to establish the position of Summer Learning Coordinator within the Department of Education.

Summer learning programs have the power to be a game changer for youth. Programs can help students re-connect with peers and caring adults, re-engage in learning, and accelerate students' social, emotional, and academic recovery. Summer learning programs can serve as a lifeline particularly for families who, keeping kids safe, healthy, learning, and active—and ensuring parents are able to work or take time to seek employment.

My work career included five years as a Program Specialist at the State of Hawaii Office of Youth Services. More recently, I volunteered last summer at a YMCA's Power Scholar summer program on the mainland and got to view first-hand the benefits of a quality summer learning program. A high percentage of the students were ESL learners and a portion were attention-challenged students. I saw second and third-grade students thrive due to the academics, social connections, STEM learning, outdoor learning labs, and small group interactions.

The Hawai'i Department of Education needs more capacity to take a leadership role in coordinating all summer programs and providing support to schools.

I urge the passage of this bill so that the DOE and schools can provide the support students need during the summer months. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

**Debra**

Debra Shiraishi-Pratt