

**SCR-63-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 5:10:31 PM

Testimony for EDN on 4/14/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Golojuch Jr	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Representatives,

The Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i (formerly the LGBT Caucus) Hawai'i's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization fully supports SCR 63 SD 1.

We hope you all will support this important resolution.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.  
Chair and SCC Representative  
Stonewall Caucus for the DPH

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT  
S.C.R. 63 S.D. 1**

TO: Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Education

FROM: Troy J.H. Andrade, Ph.D., J.D.

RE: STRONG SUPPORT of S.C.R. 63 S.D. 1, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION TO NAME THE NEW KIHEI HIGH SCHOOL IN HONOR  
OF UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN PATSY T. MINK.

DATE: Thursday, April 14, 2022

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PLACE: State Capitol, Conference Room 309  
415 South Beretania Street

---

I write today in *strong support* of naming the new high school in Kihei, Maui after United States Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink.

Patsy Takemoto Mink’s story is an American story. Although born in a small plantation village on Maui, and raised during a time when her race and gender foreclosed better opportunities, Mink was not afraid to challenge the status quo. During World War II, Mink, like all other Japanese Americans, was declared an enemy of this nation. But, that did not deter her drive for equality and her love of her country. She would overcome racial and gender discrimination and become the first Japanese American woman admitted to practice law in Hawai‘i. With the admiration and support of the people, Mink would be elected to the Hawai‘i legislature and subsequently to the United States House of Representatives, where she was the first woman of color to serve in the United States Congress. Over the course of her illustrious career in public service, Mink pushed for deep societal changes. From advocating for the expansion of the public access to government information to ensuring the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the nation, Mink’s legacy has touched the lives of all Americans.

Perhaps Mink’s greatest achievement was her advocacy for passage in 1972 of Title IX, which provided: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” With these thirty-seven words and despite significant resistance, Patsy Mink changed America. This law transformed America’s schools and universities by prohibiting educational institutions from receiving federal funds by discriminating on the basis of gender in admissions, recruitment, financial aid, housing, and athletics. Because of Title IX, today, the ratio of women law school graduates in the United States approaches fifty percent, and about one third of American lawyers and judges are women.

To honor Patsy Mink's profound and successful efforts to bring gender equity to education, Congress renamed Title IX as the Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act. In 2014, and because of her tremendous contributions to the United States, President Barack Obama posthumously awarded Mink the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

I can imagine no better way for Hawai'i and the Hawai'i State Department of Education to honor a personal hero and a trailblazer than to name the newest high school, which happens to be in the congressional district she represented, after Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink. Our children deserve to know, remember, and honor her story. Students at a Mink High School can be the ambassadors of her story and her rich legacy of equity, opportunity, and justice.

**SCR-63-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/13/2022 11:23:55 PM

Testimony for EDN on 4/14/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richard Michaels	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair

Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

House Committee on Education

**We are writing in stong support of naming the new high school in Kihei, Maui after the United States Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink.**

As residents of South Maui and Kihei, we think there could be no better way to honor this amazing woman who gave us the 37 words of Title IX that changed the World.

Mahalo,

Richard and Judith Michaels

Kihei, Maui, Hawaii

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR 63 SD1**

TO: Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Education

FROM: Jocelyn Romero Demirbag, Ed.D.  
Pukalani, Maui, HI 96768

RE: STRONG SUPPORT of SCR 63 SD1, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
TO NAME THE NEW KIHEI HIGH SCHOOL IN HONOR OF UNITED STATES  
CONGRESSWOMAN PATSY T. MINK

DATE: Thursday, April 14, 2022  
TIME: 2:00 PM  
PLACE: State Capitol, Conference Room 309, 415 South Beretania Street

---

I am writing in strong support of naming the new Kihei High School after Hawaii's most influential legislator, Patsy Takemoto Mink. I know that numerous others have cited her extensive national accolades and will not repeat them. But I will say that Patsy Takemoto Mink represents so much of what Hawaii is about. Her family came to seek a better future, just like most of the students at the new high school. She persisted despite tremendous, very difficult odds to make a lasting, game changing impact in America, despite being from a tiny place on a tiny island in the Pacific. If you have never visited the Old Maui High in Hamakuapoko, it's hard to imagine the message this brings. The hope and possibilities. Isn't this what we want to give our young people? The courage and tenacity to persist in making our country the best it can be? Patsy Takemoto Mink is a national hero and a powerful role model for our young people and we should treat her as such. It's long past time. Help Hawaii and America increase access, equity, and justice for each citizen, and help us remember who helped to make that possible—one of our very own.

Here's to the new Patsy Takemoto Mink High School in Kihei.