



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 04/06/2023

**Time:** 10:00 AM

**Location:** CR 211 & Videoconference

**Committee:** Senate Ways and Means

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 0069, HD1, SD1 RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics/Academics, Culture, and Health program. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 69, HD1, SD1. The Resources for Enrichment, Athletics/Academics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program provides critical, developmentally-aligned out-of-school time (OST) opportunities to public and charter middle/intermediate school students at no cost to their families.

The Department respectfully requests the appropriation of \$2,500,000, as was proposed in the first draft of HB 69 to expand its after-school programs. The additional appropriation would allow middle/intermediate schools to expand and enhance their OST program. Due to the current REACH allocation, the \$12,000 maximum that schools could apply for allowed for an equal disbursement of funding among all applicants; however, it did not meet schools' actual or ideal budget needs. An appropriation of \$2,500,000 would allow students' needs and interests to drive the design of schools' REACH program and allow more schools to access REACH funding. This would equip our middle-level schools with funding to provide OST opportunities that support student academic growth and social-emotional learning. By investing in the REACH program, the State of Hawaii and the Department will signal its collective commitment to our students, families, and communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

Date: April 4, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair  
And members of the Committee

From: Early Childhood Action Strategy

Re: **Support for HB 69 HD1 SD1 Relating to After-School Programs**

---

Early Childhood Action Strategy (ECAS) is a statewide cross-sector partnership designed to improve the system of care for Hawai'i's youngest children and their families. ECAS partners are working to align priorities for children prenatal to age eight, streamline services, maximize resources, and improve programs to support our youngest keiki.

**ECAS supports passage of HB 69, which would increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture and Health (REACH) program.**

Afterschool programs are essential to the success of students across all grade levels. For middle-school students, after school programs have the capacity to reduce high school drop-out rates and ensure students remain engaged in their education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, support their in-class learning, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.

Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important measure.



*Hawai'i 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: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: **HB 69, HD1, SD1 - Relating to After-School Programs**  
Hawai'i State Capitol & Via Videoconference  
April 6, 2023, 10:00 AM

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in **support of HB 69, HD1, SD1, relating to after-school programs**. This bill would appropriate funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (R.E.A.C.H.) program.

**HCAN Speaks! Board  
of Directors**

Liza Ryan Gill  
*President*

Nick Kacprowski, J.D.  
*Treasurer*

Mandy Fernandes  
*Secretary*

Teri Keliipuleole  
Jasmine Slovak  
Erica Yamauchi

More funding for the R.E.A.C.H program will help expand comprehensive, high quality afterschool offerings and meet the growing needs of our students and families. **We suggest increasing the funding amount to \$2.5 million per year.**

Afterschool programming is incredibly important to working families. Having a nurturing place to go afterschool allows children and youth to stay safe and their parents to work full-time.

But there aren't enough afterschool programs to serve all the families needing help. It is estimated that tens of thousands more Hawai'i children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available to them.<sup>1</sup>

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 provide structured activities during out of school time.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony. Please pass this bill.

Thank you,

Nicole Woo  
Director of Research and Economic Policy

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/data/geo/Hawai%E2%80%99i/overview>



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
OF HAWAII

April 4, 2023

Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 SD1 Relating to After-School Programs  
April 6, 2023 Conference Room 211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the  
Committee,

Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii supports HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for  
the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture,  
and Health (REACH) program.

Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The  
intermediate years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and  
ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community.  
Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a  
space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.

BGCH provides safe places, caring adult mentors and positive youth  
development programs to youth who need us most. From homework help to  
prevention in substance abuse and risky behaviors, we have proven that  
afterschool programs augment the critical work our teachers do every day  
and support parents and guardians who are doing their very best. We ask  
you this important question: if afterschool programs did not exist, where  
would our youth, the future leaders of our communities, be now?

There is high demand for afterschool programs, and for every youth in an  
afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and  
unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the  
offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current  
programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional  
learning.

Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that  
all middle and intermediate students can have the support they need after  
school. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Paddy Kauhane  
President & CEO

**Administrative Office**  
1000 Bishop Street  
Suite 505  
Honolulu HI 96813-4205  
Tel 808-949-4203  
Fax 808-955-4496  
www.bgch.com

**Board of Directors**  
Peter Hirano, Chair  
Christian Adams  
Danielle Aiu  
Will Burke  
Dylan Ching  
Scott Choi  
Mark Cochran  
Dan Cooke  
Francoise Culley-Trotman  
Robert Field  
Walter Guild  
Chip Hammond  
Chris Hause  
Kessie Hui  
Kisan Jo  
Andrew Kamikawa  
John Katahira  
Ryan Kuniyuki  
Robert Kurisu  
Lina Le  
Liz Makarra  
Nikki Moreno  
Bruce Nakaoka  
Daniel Nishikawa  
Shannon Nishio  
Ed Nishioka  
Nathan Okubo  
Nancy Pace  
Bonnie Pang  
Jeff Pauker  
Michal Anne Rogondino  
Cindy Sakai  
Michael Town  
Donna Yano  
Brian Yoshii  
Darcie Yukimura

**Board of Advisors**  
Robbie Alm  
H. Mitchell D'Olier  
Richard Gushman II  
Kevin J. Leary  
Mary Lou Lewis  
Ron Schmid  
Cynthia Schnack Lee  
Ronald Ward  
Aaron Young

**Founder**  
Charles C. Spalding

**President & CEO**  
Paddy Kauhane



841 Bishop St., Suite 301  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530  
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

April 6, 2023

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

We support HB 69 HD1 SD1, which appropriates funds for the DOE's REACH Program.

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.<sup>1</sup> After school programs can also have benefits to families including better connection between parents, children and communities, and improved relationships between parents and children.<sup>2</sup>

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 at least a 75% consensus of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

---

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

<sup>2</sup> 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  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Alliance for Place Based Learning  
Castle Complex Community Council  
Coalition for Children with Special Needs  
Education Institute of Hawai'i  
\*Faith Action for Community Equity  
Fresh Leadership LLC  
Girl Scouts Hawaii  
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation  
\*HawaiiKidsCAN  
\*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance  
\*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
\*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists  
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars  
\*Hawai'i Children's Action Network  
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition  
Hawai'i Scholars for Education and Social Justice  
\* Hawai'i State PTSA  
Hawai'i State Student Council  
Hawai'i State Teachers Association  
Hawai'i P-20  
Hawai'i 3Rs  
Head Start Collaboration Office  
It's All About Kids  
\*INPEACE  
Joint Venture Education Forum  
Junior Achievement of Hawaii  
Kamehameha Schools

Kanu Hawai'i  
Kaua'i Ho'okele Council  
Keiki to Career Kaua'i  
Kupu A'e  
\*Leaders for the Next Generation  
Learning First  
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds  
Native Hawaiian Education Council  
Our Public School  
\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning  
\*Parents and Children Together  
\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i  
Special Education Provider Alliance  
\*Teach for America  
The Learning Coalition  
US PACOM  
University of Hawai'i College of Education  
\*Youth Service Hawai'i

*Voting Members (\*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*

Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

April 6, 2023  
Conference Room 211

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 SD1 Relating to After-School Programs

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,

Connections Public Charter School supports HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program.

Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The intermediate years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.

Tihani is a senior and is approaching her graduation. R.E.A.C.H. played a significant role in her success. Tihani had a very tough life in the foster care system. Studio Shaka (REACH after school program) provided a safe place for her to learn, grow and explore. Tihani is currently taking college courses and works for the school and a local restaurant. Tihani attributes her success to the help she got through the turbulent middle school years thanks to R.E.A.C.H.

Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

R.E.A.C.H. has successfully helped dozens of Tihani's giving them hope and opportunity in the most difficult time of their educational life. Please do everything to help our students.

Connections Public Charter School respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that all middle and intermediate students can have the support they need after school. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

*Kristen Kua*

Kristen Kua  
Program Specialist  
Connections Public Charter School Hilo, HI





david.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org  
hawaiikidscan.org

David Miyashiro  
Executive Director

April 6, 2023

Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

**HawaiiKidsCAN strongly supports HB69 HD1 SD1**, which appropriates funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics/Academics, Culture, and Health program.

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a local nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that Hawaii has an excellent and equitable education system that reflects the true voices of our communities and, in turn, has a transformational impact on our children and our state. We strongly believe that all students should have access to excellent educational opportunities, regardless of family income levels and circumstances.

The COVID-19 pandemic had many negative impacts on our community, including the ensuing learning loss caused by disrupted learning. The results of the 2021-2022 Smarter Balanced Assessment revealed that just 52% of Hawaii students were proficient in English Language Arts and 38% in math, so much work needs to be done to help catch up a significant number of students.

Afterschool programs, including REACH, are a vital component of supporting our students grow their academic and social/emotional skills. Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

Mahalo for your consideration,

David Miyashiro  
Founding Executive Director  
HawaiiKidsCAN



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

[asahawaii.org](http://asahawaii.org)

#### Board of Directors

##### Chair

Dawn M. Dunbar  
*Hawaii Pacific Health*

##### Founding Chair

Brett Brewer  
*Crosscut Ventures*

##### Vice Chair and Treasurer

Richanne Lam  
*Morgan Stanley*

##### Secretary

Corey Campbell  
*Akamai Training and Consulting*

AJ Halagao  
*Hawaiian Electric Industries*

Lori Harrison  
*Kaiser Permanente*

Jim Polk  
*Bank of Hawaii*

Tiffany Vara  
*Community Volunteer*

Paula Fitzell  
*After-School All-Stars Hawaii*

#### Advisory Board

Greg Dickhens  
*Trinity Investments, LLC*

Bert A. Kobayashi  
*Kobayashi Group*

Susan Kobayashi  
*Community Volunteer*

Maya Soetoro-Ng  
*Educator*

Jeff Watanabe  
*Watanabe Inc*

Lynn Watanabe  
*Community Volunteer*

Brady Yee  
*Pacific Contract*

04/4/2023

Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

April 6, 2023  
Conference Room 211

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 SD1 Relating to After-School Programs

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,

After-School All-Stars Hawaii supports HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program.

Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The intermediate school years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.

After-School All-Stars Hawaii works in 12 Title I middle and intermediate school and last year provided over 2,600 students with free daily after-school programs. Although our programs are free for all our participants, they are certainly not free to provide. This year, successful applicants for the REACH grant received \$12,000 to provide after-school programs, this is a rather inadequate amount even to fund a very small portion of an effective after-school program.

Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social and emotional learning.

After-School All-Stars Hawaii respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students have the support they need after school. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Paula Fitzell  
President/CEO

**HB-69-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 8:22:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Phaedra Robinson	Testifying for RAI Hawaii LLC	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

**Senator Dela Cruz, Chair**

**Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair**

**April 6, 2023**

**Conference Room 211**

**RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 SD1 Relating to After-School Programs**

**Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,**

**RAI Hawaii and it's team urges you to support HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program.**

**Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The intermediate years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.**

**After school programs which are informal education organizations are essential to the computer science education ecosystem and should be included as critical stakeholders in**

**state and district implementation efforts. Organizations participating in informal education networks, such as the Statewide Afterschool Networks, can play a large role in supporting partnerships with industry and higher education institutions, including organizing large-scale professional development opportunities. Informal education offers young people opportunities to increase their interest in computer science, develop relationships with role models, and build capacity for engaging in a variety of computer science activities. Informal education is used here to refer to organizations that provide extracurricular, out-of-school, afterschool, camp, or other learning environments beyond the scope of the school day, including the developers of games and apps on the Internet and mobile devices. Informal education can provide increased opportunities for project-based learning, as demonstrated by the maker movement in afterschool programs. Informal education provides a natural setting for socially relevant and culturally situated activities, such as community impact projects.**

**Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.**

**RAI Hawaii and its program directors respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that all middle and intermediate students can have the support they need after school. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**With appreciation,**

Phaedra Robinson, Ph.D.

RAI Hawaii LLC Founder and CEO

Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance  
1776 University Avenue, WA1-102  
Honolulu, HI 96822



Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

April 6, 2023  
Conference Room 211

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 SD1 Relating to After-School Programs

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program.

Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The intermediate years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.

Hawai'i parents report that afterschool programs are a lifeline for working families. According to the America After 3PM report, 81% of Hawai'i parents agree that their afterschool program helps them keep their job or work more hours, and 84% of parents agree that programs provide them peace of mind.

Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance respectfully urges the passage of this bill, so students have the support they need after school. 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)

**HB-69-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 10:56:16 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Bickel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I taught at public schools on 'Oahu for twelve years and taught at private school for twenty-two years. I taught middle school for two years. Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The intermediate years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills. Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

**HB-69-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 11:27:48 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Colleen Rost-Banik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. My name is Colleen Rost-Banik. I am a resident of Honolulu and an instructor of Sociology at the University of Hawaii, Manoa. I'm writing in support of HB69. While I do not have children myself, I strongly support afterschool programs as they are crucial places of safety, learning, and socialization for working families.

Please support HB69.

Mahalo for your time.

Colleen Rost-Banik, PhD



**HB-69-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 12:31:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
william ludwig	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

April 6, 2023

Conference Room 211

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 SD1 Relating to After-School Programs

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,

I strongly support HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for

Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program.

My recent experience as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer in an Afterschool program on Oahu Island

demonstrates that such programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The intermediate years

are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their

education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for

students to develop their social-emotional skills. The recent experience with COVID-19 has resulted in a

significant setback.

As an elementary student, I benefited from an afterschool program offered by the Boys Club of America.

Meeting teachers and high school students as counselors made me want to be like them.

Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are

waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not

only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming

to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

I humbly urge the passage of this bill so that all middle and intermediate students can have the support they

need after school. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

william s ludwig, BS, MPH

Former US Peace Corps Nyong et Kelly République du Cameroun

**HB-69-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 2:27:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Linda Elento	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I request the Legislature to include in this measure funding for accommodations and related services to comply with anti-discrimination due to disability laws. These funds are often overlooked with the result of students with disabilities being denied access to programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to request funding to specifically include services necessary for a student with a disability to participate and be included.

**HB-69-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 2:45:32 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Loren Lindborg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

April 6, 2023  
Conference Room 211

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 SD1 Relating to After-School Programs

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,

I, Loren Lindborg, support HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program.

Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The intermediate years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.

After-school programs are important to me because they encourage youth to hone talents in their school. I have friends and family who have run after-school for the arts, drama, and music and have seen personally how it helps youth grow, build confidence and find a community or space in which they thrive. For myself, I have led after-school programs like speech and debate which have really shown me the true potential of some youth who might otherwise have fallen by the wayside.

Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

I, Loren Lindborg, respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that all middle and intermediate students can have the support they need after school. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Loren Lindborg  
Former educator and ally of after-school programs

**HB-69-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 6:40:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cards Pintor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this bill.

Mahalo nui,

Cards Pintor

**HB-69-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/5/2023 8:15:30 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Simone Kamaunu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

please support this.