



### **HB2403**

**MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS  
House Committee on Education**

January 30, 2024

2:00 PM

Room 309

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend that the Board of Trustees (BOT) **SUPPORT** HB2403, which makes an emergency appropriation to provide money for the Department of Education for charter schools.

Hawai‘i’s 37 public charter schools play a critical role in educating our keiki. Seventeen of the 37 are Hawaiian-focused charter schools. These institutions provide innovative, culture-based education to more than 4,000 students, 77 percent of whom are of Native Hawaiian ancestry. Hawaiian-focused charter schools serve Hawaiians and the broader population with curriculum grounded in ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, ‘ike Hawai‘i and Hawaiian cultural values. Having these kinds of culturally responsive and grounded education options available is critical for Native Hawaiians’ success and overall well-being.

As this bill notes, public charter school enrollment has outpaced that of their Department of Education counterparts. There is a desperate need to shore up resources to ensure Hawai‘i’s public charter schools can meet the needs of our students, including keiki on Maui whose families are still recovering and rebuilding after the devastating fires in August 2023. The emergency funding proposed in this legislation will ensure students across the 37 charter schools and especially the 17 Hawaiian-focused charter schools get the support they need for the next academic year.

OHA urges this committee to advance this measure and ensure Hawai‘i’s public charter schools get the financial resources they need. Mahalo again for the opportunity to support HB2403. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this important issue.



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

**Date:** 01/30/2024  
**Time:** 02:00 PM  
**Location:** 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 2403 MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Makes an emergency appropriation to provide moneys for the Department of Education for charter schools.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2403, an administrative package bill, which seeks a current fiscal year general fund appropriation for the amount the Department was required to transfer to the Charter Schools (from EDN 100 School Based Budgeting to EDN 600 Charter Schools) per Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 302D - Public Charter Schools Section 28 - Funding and finance.

One of the requirements contained in HRS 302D-28, intended to ensure that the non-facility general fund per pupil funding required for charter schools is the same as the general fund per-pupil amount to the Department, is that:

*"(c) ...each year the director of finance shall:*

- (1) Determine the sum of general fund appropriations made for department and charter school student non-facility costs described in subsections (a) and (b);*
- (2) Determine the sum of department and charter school student enrollment based on reviewed and verified student enrollment counts as of October 15;*
- (3) Determine a per-pupil amount by dividing the sum of general fund appropriations determined under paragraph (1) by the sum of student enrollment determined under paragraph (2);*
- (4) Transfer a general fund amount between the department and charter schools that*

*will provide each with a per-pupil allocation equal to the amount determined on an annualized fiscal year basis under paragraph (3); and*

*(5) Annually account for all calculations and transfers made pursuant to this subsection in a report to the legislature, governor, department, and charter schools."*

This year, the result of the "true-up" calculation was that the Department needed to transfer to Charter Schools \$6,588,748.69 by November 15, 2023. This amount was much larger than in previous years. The reason for this large "true-up" was due to the combination of the Legislature's use of a lower than projected enrollment figure for Charter Schools (\$3.1 million impact), an apparent misapplication of the funding formula using the lower enrollment projection (\$1.9 million impact), and actual October 15, 2023 enrollments for both the Department and Charter Schools being higher than projected (\$1.6 million impact).

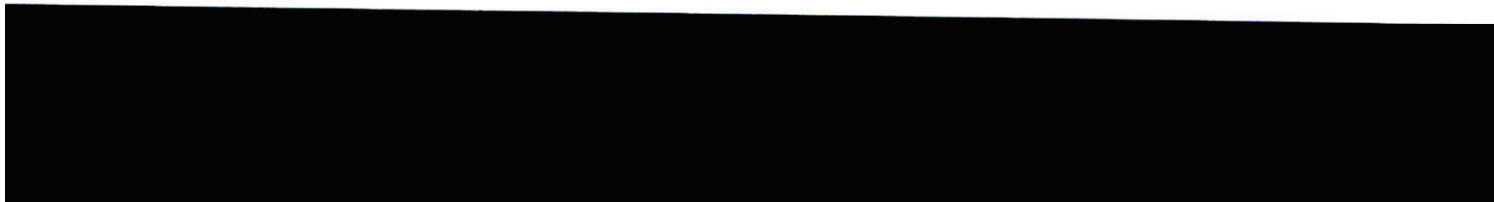
As required by statute, the Department has transferred nearly \$6.6 million from EDN 100 to EDN. The reduction to the Department's Fiscal Year 2023-24 general funds has not been imposed at the program level (e.g. Weighted Student Formula, Athletics, Hawaiian Studies, etc.), but only at the EDN level. As a result, the Department's EDN 100 program allocations are exceeding available funds by nearly \$6.6 million. This \$6.6 million is needed to address this over-allocation situation.

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

## HB 2403 Department of Education Testimony Attachment

FY 23-24 APPROPRIATION		
a	EDN100 Appropriation	1,192,034,817
b	EDN200 Appropriation	80,565,206
c	EDN300 Appropriation	62,248,091
d	EDN400 Appropriation	258,785,885
e = a+b+c+d	DOE Basis for PCS Per Pupil Funding	1,593,633,999
f	DOE K-12 projected enrollment	154,096
g = e/f	DOE Per Pupil Amount	10,341.83
h	PCS K-12 projected enrollment (Commission projection was 12,415)	12,116
i = g*h	PCS Per Pupil Amount if calculated per 302D-28	125,301,562
budget bill	EDN600 Appropriation *	123,362,613
* not clear how the EDN600 appropriation was determined		

OCTOBER 15, 2023 TRUE UP		
a	DOE K-12 October 15, 2023 Enrollment	154,575
b	PCS K-12 October 15, 2023 Enrollment	12,657
c = a+b	Total K-12 October 15, 2023 Enrollment	167,232
d	DOE Appropriation	1,593,633,999
e	PCS Appropriation	123,362,613
f = d+e	Combined Total Appropriation	1,716,996,612
g = f / c	Combined Per Pupil	\$10,267.15
h = a * g	DOE Updated	\$1,587,045,250.31
i = b * g	PCS Updated	\$129,951,361.69
j = h - d	DOE Adj	-\$6,588,748.69
k = i - e	PCS Adj	\$6,588,748.69





Teaching Today for Hawaii's Tomorrow



1200 Ala Kapuna Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 • Fax: (808) 839-7106 • Web: www.hsta.org

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Executive Director

## TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAII HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Item: **HB2403 - Making an emergency appropriation to the Department of Education for charter schools**

Position: **Support**

Hearing: **January 30, 2024, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309**

Submitter: **Osa Tui, Jr. – President, Hawai'i State Teachers Association**

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair La Chica, and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association **supports** HB2403. This bill makes an emergency appropriation to provide monies for the Department of Education for charter schools as recommended by the governor.

Hawai'i public charter school enrollment has grown at 4% faster than projected. With charter school funding based on the proportionality of their enrollment when compared to the department's, they need this critical funding so that their students can be provided the services they are equally entitled to as their counterpart students in HIDOE schools.

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

**LATE**

**HB-2403**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 7:14:27 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/30/2024 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Angela Melody Young	CARES	Support	In Person

Comments:

CARES testifies in strong support.