



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

Date: 03/30/2023

Time: 10:05 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 middle/intermediate and charter 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. These funds would create opportunities for middle-level schools by increasing programming access for more students. The funds would also enhance the quality of existing programs by allowing schools to participate in special projects and help to supply and staff the programs and activities. By investing in the REACH program, the State of Hawaii will signal its commitment to our students, families, and communities.

This measure aligns with the Department's high-leverage priority of middle-level

education to support student academic growth and social-emotional learning.

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

HB-69-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 4:27:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2023 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
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

March 30, 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 supports HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to \$2,500,000.

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.

With the high teacher turnover Hawaii continues to have with no foreseeable solution or end to this problem, the youth of our state need access to high quality after school programs that will teach important skills they will need which will positively impact their futures- such as access to Computer Science programs where they can learn to code and program and interact with AI. Quality afterschool programs have the power to make up for the lack of learning from classrooms that are taught by uncertified, unqualified teachers, to help

with learning loss from the pandemic and to teach youth skills that will improve their lives and possibly lead to successful and sustainable careers for 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.

RAI 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.

With appreciation,

Phaedra Robinson, Ph.D.

Founder and CEO RAI Hawaii



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
March 30, 2023, 10:05 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
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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.¹

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

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



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03/28/2023

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

March 30, 2023
Conference Room 211

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 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 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to \$2,500,000.

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

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

March 30, 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.¹ After school programs can also have benefits to families including better connection between parents, children and communities, and improved relationships between parents and children.²

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

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

² 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
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*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.*



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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

March 28, 2023
Conference Room 211

RE: HB69 HD1 SD1 Relating to After-School Programs-**Support**

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

YMCA of Honolulu supports HB69 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to \$2,500,000.

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.

Recently, a parent shared the following testimonial with us: "Scheduling became impossible between work and getting my daughter after school. Without having any family on island, there are very few options for us. We got accepted into the program and it was more than I ever hoped for. It's more than just a "program" to entertain the kids after school. It's a community. There's so much care, attention and passion for the kids. They do their homework the first hour, which is so helpful as a parent. Honestly I don't know what I would do without this program. I'm so grateful and recommend it to anyone!"

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 YMCA of Honolulu 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,
Greg Waibel
President & 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

March 30, 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 to \$2,500,000.

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



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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 69 HD1 SD1

TO: Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, & Members
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO
DATE: March 30, 2023 10:05 AM

PACT supports HB 69 HD1 SD1, to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to \$2,500,000.

Founded in 1968, PACT is a statewide community-based organization providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to families in need. Assisting more than 15,000 people across the state annually, we help identify, address, and successfully resolve challenges through our 20 programs. Among our services are early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, childhood sexual abuse supportive group services, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, sex trafficking intervention, poverty prevention and community building programs.

As a provider of early learning, adolescent and youth programs, including our Community Teen Programs at Kuhio Park Terrace in Kalihi and Puuwai Momi in Halawa, PACT understands the importance of high-quality education opportunities for every child. Afterschool programs are essential during the intermediate years to reverse high school drop-out rates and ensure 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.

There is high demand for afterschool programs. For every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth left unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will expand the offerings currently provided and allow those programs to enhance their current services to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org if you have any questions.

HB-69-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:56:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2023 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marion K A Kapuniai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

BOTH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION ARE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEMS, WHICH SHALL BE TREATED EQUALLY -

AMEND THIS BILL TO INCLUDE EQUAL FUNDING TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION TO PROVIDE THE SAME PROGAMS.

THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION DEMANDS THIS.

THANK YOU, M KAPUNIAI

HB-69-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 5:25:50 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2023 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Molly Mamaril	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I support HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to \$2,500,000.

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. As a student who benefitted, from afterschool programming, I feel that this will enhance students' experiences and prepare them for their futures.

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 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,

Molly Mamaril

HB-69-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:55:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2023 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephenie Blakemore	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Now more than ever we need to address the lack of afterschool programs in our communities that provide academic, social emotional learning and sports for our keiki. After school programs can provide much needed support to improve reading and math skills for all students as the student performance in both core subjects has been chronically below grade level for the majority of Hawaii's public school students for years. The rising number of obese children is a health crisis that can be mitigated by getting kids outdoors and provide daily practice of critical social and emotional skills through playing sports. Funding after school programs that can provide safe structured fun, improve academic performance, teach collaboration, develop social-emotional learning and suggest career paths that keep our keiki in Hawaii as future community members is an investment we can all agree is going to reap great rewards for Hawaii.

HB-69-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:16:39 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2023 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Colleen Rost-Banik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Colleen Rost-Banik, and I'm a sociology instructor at University of Hawaii, Manoa. I strongly support HB69 and urge you to as well. Children--and their families--need adequate funding for after school care. While I do not have children of my own, I am a person who highly values what after school care provides for our society. Learning, growth, connection, and safety are among the many benefits of after school programs.

Please support HB69.

Mahalo for your time.

Colleen Rost-Banik, PhD

HB-69-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:51:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2023 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martha Rodillas	Testifying for Island of Hawaii YMCA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

The Island of Hawaii YMCA supports HB 69 HD1 SD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to \$2,500,000.

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.

The Island of Hawaii YMCA has first hand experience in this arena by providing supervised care to youth when school is not in session. We have the opportunity to make a positive impact on youth who may not get this at home. We are an essential part of influencing our kids in our neighborhoods and communities.

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 Island of Hawaii YMCA respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students have the support they need after school. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Thank you,

Martha Rodillas, Administrative Office Manager

Island of Hawaii YMCA

HB-69-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:01:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2023 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Loren Lindborg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii does not enough money currently to support rigourous, diverse after-school programs and we ask that the committee increases funding in order to make this happen in our communities.