



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

Date: 03/18/2025

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 411 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Committee: House Water & Land

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Bill Title: SB 1393, SD1, HD1 RELATING TO THE USE OF PUBLIC LANDS.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the School Facilities Authority to consult with the Department of Education and other impacted departments or agencies before the conveyance of ownership rights or lease of lands to the School Facilities Authority. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) appreciates the opportunity to offer testimony in support of SB 1393, SD 1, HD 1 with a requested amendment.

Under Hawaii Revised Statute (HRS) §302A-1703 Powers; generally, the Hawaii School Facilities Authority (SFA) is charged with the responsibility for the development, planning, and construction related for all public schools that are assigned by the Legislature, Governor, or the Hawaii State Board of Education. Although expedient execution and completion of the Department's capital improvements projects was the motivation for its creation, the SFA is intended to assist and support the Department in the area of facilities development.

The Department is requesting an amendment to revise on page 3, lines 9-12 to read:

consultation with the department of education." ~~the department of education shall transfer any identified land or an agreed upon portion thereof, to which it holds [title] ownership rights to the authority."~~

As described in our 2023-2029 Strategic Plan, the Department envisions a K-12 public education system that prepares all graduates to be globally competitive, locally committed which means that students have the academic knowledge and skills to thrive and be successful balanced with the sense of responsibility to give back to our communities. School facilities and buildings play a key role

in meeting this vision as echoed in Goal 3.1 that requires "all school facilities are safe, well-maintained, compliant with all laws and regulations, clean, and attractive to provide a positive and inviting learning environment for students and staff."

If the Department is going to be successful in providing an optimal learning and teaching environment for our students and teachers, it is imperative that the SFA partner with and consult with the Department in all aspects of its development, planning, and construction of public school facilities, including the proposed conveyance of ownership rights or lease of lands to itself.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in support of this measure with the requested amendment.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



RIKI FUJITANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
SCHOOL FACILITIES AUTHORITY
2759 S. KING STREET, ROOM H201
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

House Committee on Water and Land

Tuesday, March 18, 2025
10:00 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 411

Senate Bill 1393, SD1, HD1, Relating to the Use of Public Lands

Dear Chair Hasham, Vice Chair Lamosao, and Members of the Committee:

The School Facilities Authority (SFA) offers **comments** on Senate Bill 1393, SD1, HD1, which would require the SFA to consult with the Department of Education (DOE) and other impacted departments or agencies prior to the conveyance of ownership rights or lease of lands to the SFA.

We appreciate the legislature incorporating our recommended amendments. SFA is committed to consulting with any department or agency prior to requesting land from it.

Sincerely,

Riki Fujitani
Executive Director