



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

Date: 02/10/2025

Time: 03:02 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Bill Title: SB 0187 RELATING TO A LIBRARY IN EWA BEACH.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education to transfer the Ewa Beach Public and School Library from the State Public Library System to James Campbell High School.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on SB 187.

The Department would like to offer a clarification to Section 1, paragraph 2, regarding operational hours. Lines 8 through 12 imply that in addition to serving Campbell High School students, the students of nearby Pohakea Elementary School and Ilima Intermediate School have difficulty using the library given the operational hours of the library. The Department would like to clarify that both the elementary school and intermediate school have their own on-campus library facilities. The Ewa Beach public and school library would only be used by these younger students with their families or on their own after school hours.

The Department wishes to support the desire of the school community to transfer the library to James Campbell High School and acknowledges there are 12 combined public and school libraries across the state. Should this transfer take place, the Department would need to have a continued partnership with the Hawaii State Public Library System who is more suited to handle the public's needs in regards to libraries than the Department would be on its own. In particular, the logistics of staffing the library outside of school hours with Department employees would need to be further explored.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments to SB 187.



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
'OIHANA HALE WAIHONA PUKE AUPUNI O KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN
44 MERCHANT STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Monday, February 10, 2025

3:02 pm

Conference Room 229

**By Stacey A. Aldrich
State Librarian**

S.B. 187 RELATING TO A LIBRARY IN EWA BEACH

To: Sen. Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Sen. Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

The Hawai'i State Public Library System (HSPLS) **opposes S.B. 187**, which, among other things, requires the Department of Education to transfer the Ewa Beach Public and School Library (Ewa Beach Library) from the Hawaii State Public Library System to James Campbell High School (JCHS).

It is disappointing to see a bill that will deprive the Ewa Beach community of a public library, especially when so many other resources have been closing in Ewa Beach. Aside from the fact that the Department of Education (DOE) has no authority, oversight or control over the public library system, including the Ewa Beach Library, SB187 reflects a lack of understanding of the role the Ewa Beach Library serves in supporting area students and the community. Passage of this bill would deprive the Ewa Beach community, including elementary and middle school students, of its public library materials, programs, services and research resources.

We note that the language of SB187 purports to raise concerns about access to the public library as justification for transferring the building to the JCHS; however, the language contains several inaccuracies which are contradictory, including:

Section 1

The Library's public hours in the bill are incorrect. The new hours are posted on our website and are a direct reflection on the ability to fill vacancies. The hours reflect input from the community, which includes two evenings.

- JCHS has a permanent full-time Library Assistant (an employee of the DOE) who works Monday through Friday starting at 7:30am. She regularly provides access to the Ewa Beach Library to JCHS faculty, staff and students, and she schedules classes, when the Ewa Beach Library is not open to the public.
- The DOE has no authority, oversight or control over the public library system.

Section 2

The DOE has no authority, oversight or control over the public library system.

Section 3

The Ewa Beach Library's employees are not DOE employees, and therefore, they cannot be transferred within the department of education. HSPLS employees are part of the Executive Branch.

Section 4

The DOE has no authority, oversight or control over the public library system. Therefore, there cannot be a transfer of assets and resources within the department of education.

The HSPLS has serious concerns that the Legislature believes the transfer of the Ewa Beach Library will result in more access to library services for area students. In fact, the opposite will occur. At the time of inception, the public and school library model was intended to be staffed by school library staff AND public library staff. Currently, the HSPLS is supplementing library staff services to JCHS, following the retirement of the JCHS school librarian in 2021.

The loss of the public library to JCHS raises serious public policy concerns, including:

- The public library serves everyone. The loss of the public library means that elementary and middle school students will have no access to a library that provides them with access to materials for their homework and access to technology so that they can connect and do their studies. The public library is the walkable place for the community of Ewa Beach for access and it would be not available for students.
- The Ewa Beach community would lose a valued resource, as there is no other public building or service in the area that provides: community groups with meeting space; meeting space for free tax services; programming from story times to visits from Santa to therapy dog sessions; free digital literacy classes; free public wifi and access to public computers; access to our statewide collections and resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 187, RELATING TO A LIBRARY IN EWA BEACH.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

DATE: Monday, February 10, 2025 **TIME:** 3:02 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Anne T. Horiuchi or Randall M. Wat, Deputy Attorneys General

Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) provides the following comments.

The bill requires the Department of Education (DOE) to transfer the Ewa Beach Public and School Library (Library) from the Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) to James Campbell High School (School).

Section 1 of the bill states the hours of the Library's operations, noting that these hours make it difficult for students of the School and of nearby schools to use the Library. Page 1, lines 8-16. However, as of January 2, 2025, the Library's hours have changed. <https://www.librarieshawaii.org/branch/ewa-beach-public-and-school-library/>. We recommend updating the bill (page 1, lines 12 to 16) to reflect the current hours.

Additionally, the bill states that the DOE shall transfer the Library from the HSPLS to the School (page 2, lines 5-8). However, it is unclear what this transfer entails. Under section 312-2.1(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), the State Librarian is responsible for the "operation, planning, programming, and budgeting of all community/school and public libraries within the State[.]" . If the intent of the bill is to transfer the operation and management of the Library to the School, so that the School has authority to change the Library's hours or to otherwise operate and manage the Library, then this should be explicitly stated in the bill.

The Department further notes that the Board of Education (BOE) controls property of the HSPLS. See section 312-1, HRS ("The [BOE] shall care for, manage, and control all property set apart, donated, loaned to, or in any manner acquired for the use of libraries[.]"). Consequently, if the bill's intent is to transfer ownership of the Library property, then this authority is with the BOE, not the HSPLS or DOE.

Section 3 of the bill also states that "[a]ll rights, powers, functions, and duties of the state public library system with regard to Ewa Beach public and school library are transferred *within* the department of education." Page 2, lines 9-12 (emphasis added). However, the HSPLS and the DOE are separate entities for purposes of employment. To ensure clarity, section 3 of the bill should be revised to transfer employees from one agency to another, rather than transferring employees within an agency.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

February 8, 2025

TO: Sen. Michelle Kidani and Senate Education Committee Members

FR: Laurel Johnston, Board of Trustees, Friends of Hawai'i Library

RE: SB187, Relating to a Library in 'Ewa Beach
Hearing of February 10, 2025

Aloha Chair Kidani and Committee Members

I am fortunate to be a part of the Board of Trustees for the Friends of Hawai'i Library supporting such programs as summer reading challenge, children's story hours, and librarian trainings, amongst many other community-based programs. I also volunteer twice a week at my local library branch selling donated books, which proceeds support local branch programs.

There are quite a few schools, both private and public, located nearby my local library branch. Many children with their parents, grandparents, or other adults visit the library during after-school hours to pick-up books, do their homework or internet research. I also happily observe parents and grandparents bringing their keiki into the library to request the child's first library card. Children are aware of the power that the library card holds as it opens up a world of knowledge and they learn to make choices about subjects of interest to them. Having a library card also supports family time during their visits to the library.

As a lifelong library user, I appreciate the access that our statewide library system provides to our communities throughout Hawai'i, both rural and urban. It is one of the best investments that we make in supporting education for all our people. Transferring the 'Ewa Beach library to the over-burdened Department of Education will not improve community access to the library. Please keep it as part of our state library system, and please consider providing additional funds for our state libraries. Your kokua is much appreciated.

Mahalo nui for your consideration and support for our Hawai'i public libraries.

February 9, 2025

Chair Michelle Kidani
Senate Committee on Education
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: SB187, Hearing February 10, 2025
Relating to a Library in 'Ewa Beach

Aloha Chair Kidani, and Committee,

Friends of the Kailua Library **strongly oppose** SB187. We strongly oppose the removal of public library services in any community. Residents would no longer have easy access to library services where they live.

Placing a public library under the administration of a high school may vastly narrow the scope of that library. Is the Campbell High School administration going to ensure that the library collection remains relevant for young children and adults. Public libraries have a children's librarian who develops programs specific to school age children and pre-school age children. What about neighboring schools. Is Campbell High School going to see that the library needs of elementary and intermediate students are met. The state library system serves everyone in the community including non-students that want library services, will Campbell High School do that.

Public Libraries provide access to lifelong learning, technology, entertainment and much more. How will removing the library from the public library system benefit the citizens of 'Ewa Beach.

Sincerely,

Robert Brown, President
Friends of the Kailua Library Board

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 6:50:42 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Michael Maddux | Testifying for Friends of the North Kohala Library | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Not a great idea. For a number of reasons. A false economy because the real costs show up over the years. Mostly through loss of community. Like a church, libraries are communal. Please do not pass this.

Respectfully,

Mike Maddux

President, Friends of the North Kohala Library



February 8, 2025

Chair Michelle Kidani,
Senate Committee on Education
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: SB187, Hearing of February 10, 2025
Relating to a Library in 'Ewa Beach

Aloha Chair Kidani, and Committee,

Friends of the Library of Hawai'i **strongly opposes** SB187. We strongly oppose any removal of public library services for any community. The community of 'Ewa is large and growing with many young families. Residents would no longer have easy access to library services where they live.

The public and school library also provides library services for neighboring schools that may not have their own school library. We know that many schools are closing their libraries and this would be a loss not only of public library services for non-students but also for the students of nearby schools. A high school library would not necessarily meet the needs of middle and elementary school students from nearby schools.

Public libraries provide access to lifelong learning, technology, entertainment, and much more for every community. Instead of removing public library services, an increase in the hours of the public library and providing additional resources to the library would be a better solution.

Friends of the Library of Hawai'i was established in 1879. Our mission is to support and promote public library services in Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

Nainoa Mau
Executive Director

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/7/2025 6:08:41 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Marina Ryan | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a homeschooling mom, we use the library weekly with my son. We LOVE the Ewa Beach PUBLIC library and would be devastated if we couldn't have access to it the same way we have now or having to drive to a different library for books. Please keep the library for public use!

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/7/2025 9:39:54 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Erin Gayer | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I am opposed to this act because it does not specify if this library, which has been in existence for 52 years, made for the public, will be available to the public after it is handed over to the high school. High school students are in need of a all the resources this library can offer, but so are the people of Ewa beach. Please keep this library opened for public use and in the hands of the Hawai'i State Public Library System. and let's not force our Ewa Beach residents to Kapolei or elsewhere to borrow their books.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 9:39:23 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jennifer Okihiro | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a homeschool parent and a resident of Ewa Beach, this bill imposes on having a well loved library close to our home being moved. Ewa library is used by the community and especially the kupuna that live near by. Please do not remove Ewa Beach Library. 📖

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 10:35:07 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Katherine Case-Prawdzik | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I am writing to oppose SB187 to transfer the Ewa Beach Public Library to James Campbell High School. As a parent of a child who attends a virtual school and does not have access to a school library, the public library is a vital resource for our family. My son and I have been going to the public library in Ewa Beach weekly for the last 3 years; my family always leaves with a large stack of books. We are able to request books from any other library within the Hawai'i Public Library System and they are delivered to our local library very quickly. This expands the selection of books available for not just us, but for every library user by allowing them access to the entire state's library of books (as opposed to just what is available within the school's collection). Additionally, we appreciate & use the other events that the library plans for families such as: kids arts & crafts, Lego days, and visits with therapy dogs. Visiting the library weekly has made it evident to me that this public library is truly serving the entire community. We have seen library users of all ages there, from pre-school keiki to elder kupuna. Removing this library from the public system and making it a part of the High School would result in restricted access to an important resource for a large portion of the community, those for whom selecting a different location isn't an option.

Beyond the books & events, the library staff at the Ewa Beach public library are also a spectacular boon to the community in Ewa Beach. They are friendly, helpfull, and truly care about the people whom they are serving with aloha. My son is always excited for our library visits & to see his favorite librarians there!

I would strongly encourage leaving the Ewa Beach Library in the Hawai'i Public Library System as its removal would leave a large gap of services within the community as a whole, but the biggest hole would be the one left in our hearts.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 11:42:29 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Barbara Dittrich | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Please don't take our library away from us! I am a regular patron of the library, and often volunteer when they need help with things like craft classes, the semiannual count, and putting RFID tags on all the books in the library. I also help box up the books that have been removed from the collection and are going to the big annual book sale. I see how important this library is to our community.

First, I would like to correct the hours. The library is open to the public on Mondays and Tuesdays from 12PM to 7PM. On Wednesdays and Thursdays the hours are from 9AM to 4PM. And on Fridays they are open from 11AM to 4PM. Also please note that students from Campbell High have access to the library during all school hours, even when it's not open to the public. These hours can be found on the library website. There is also a sign posted on the door with the hours. You can call up and ask when they are open. There is no reason for misinformation to be posted in this proposal.

This is not an affluent section of Ewa Beach, and our library provides so many free services and activities for everyone, from preschoolers to kupuna, that they may not have access to otherwise.

For children there are story times. Sometimes the Therapy Dogs come to visit for story time, and even the high school kids like to come see the dogs. Yes, teenagers doing something wholesome. It happens at the library!

For the kupuna there are are Bingo days, computer basics classes, and free income tax filing.

Older kids get involved the chess play. And the whole family can enjoy movie times, and Lego free play. Let's not forget the Christmas concerts put on by Karol's Karolers. There's something for everyone at the library!

Ilima Intermediate School and Ewa Makai Middle School do not have libraries at all. Pohakea Elementary School has a media center that has some books, but no librarian.

Our library may be small, but it serves many important purposes in our underserved community. Instead of taking it away from us, why aren't you fighting just as hard to get libraries and librarians into these other schools to give all our children the resources they need to grow into educated, responsible citizens?

If you took the time to come visit the library, you would see for yourself what a valuable service they provide to our community. Please don't take our library away from us!

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 3:00:03 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Vicky Bowie | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it does not consider all sides of this issue. By moving the library from HSPLS to Campbell High School, this removes access to this library completely from the other Ewa Beach schools such as Pohakea and Ilima nearby. If the complaint is about the hours being inconvenient to the nearby schools, then this action is completely counter to that argument. Once the library transfers to Campbell, it will not make it accessible to the public or the nearby schools which means this removes the library from this community completely. In fact the trend for many school libraries is to turn it into a media center for their students and remove their school librarians. This is exactly what Campbell High School did too. They removed their school librarians who used to staff the library during school hours. They normally depend on HSPLS to fund the library's collections and operations. Once the transfer is made, the library will not be a library anymore. The collection will be moved to other public libraries as Campbell does not own any of its furniture or library materials. HSPLS does. Campbell will be left with an empty building as not even the computers are owned by the school. What do you think they will do with it? It will cost the DOE millions to purchase furniture, computer, books, and shelves to replace what is there currently. Most likely they will turn it into something else like a classroom. How does this transfer make the library more accessible to the community? It doesn't. The hours were created as a balance in providing accessible hours for all the schools and the public. The nearest public library is Kapolei Library and can be an inconvenient distance for many Ewa Beach residents and schools. This action is essentially to remove a library, it is not a "transfer". What is transferred is the building only as HSPLS owns the rest. The current public library staff will be moved to other HSPLS libraries. The DOE and HSPLS run themselves separately. This bill shows a shallow understanding of how it runs as a public and school library and how HSPLS and Campbell share this resource. This is only less of a school library because Campbell does not run their side of the "school library". People have always misunderstood that the school library meant it was for all Ewa Schools but it actually means it only serves as a school library for Campbell. While Public Libraries serve all residents as well as all schools. This is the reality of Public & School Libraries. Even if HSPLS is kind enough to donate their furniture and collections to Campbell, this is a huge disadvantage for HSPLS and favors Campbell only. What does HSPLS get from this? What does the Ewa community? Nothing. Even Campbell students will lose their library since Campbell removed their school librarians already. I wouldn't be surprised if Campbell would want HSPLS to only leave them with the building and remove everything so they can turn it into classroom spaces.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 1:44:35 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kelly Campbell | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB187. The Ewa Beach Public & School Library will benefit the community AND schools if it stayed with Hawaii State Public Library System. I am concerned that if the library is transferred to the James Campbell High School, the surrounding elementary and middle schools will lose access to the public library. In these difficult times, the Ewa Beach Public & School Library provides beacon of light to the community. Please, keep the Ewa Beach Public & School Library with the Hawaii State Public Library System.

Kelly Campbell
Hilo 96720

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 3:10:02 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Lynn Robinson-Onderko | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Lynn Robinson Onderko. I am a 22-year resident of Ewa Beach and someone who values our Ewa Beach Public Library. I am writing in strong opposition to SB187 as our library needs to be open and accessible to the entire community. I hope you will consider the negative impacts of restricting access for residents who use the library for affordable access to information, entertainment, and other resources.

I respectfully ask that you please vote no on this measure.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Lynn Robinson Onderko, Ewa Beach

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 6:13:55 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Deanna Espinas | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I am opposed to this bill.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 6:59:00 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nina D Lloyd | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Oppose

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 8:04:58 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sarah Nanbu | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB187. SB187 would result in the closure of a public library, which provides valuable resources for the whole community.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 8:16:44 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Brandon Fukuda | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB187.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 8:32:42 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Joseph Francher | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Friends of the Wahiawa Library strongly opposes SB187. We strongly oppose any removal of public library services for any community. The community of 'Ewa is large and growing with many young families. Residents would no longer have easy access to library services where they live.

The public and school library also provides library services for neighboring schools that may not have their own school library. We know that many schools are closing their libraries and this would be a loss not only of public library services for non-students but also for the students of nearby schools.

A highschool library would not necessarily meet the needs of middle and elementary school students from nearby schools. Public libraries provide access to lifelong learning, technology, entertainment, and much more for every community. Instead of removing public library services, an increase in the hours of the public library and providing additional resources to the library would be a better solution.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 8:25:15 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Vanessa Ott | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado, and Esteemed Members of the EDU Committee,

I strongly oppose any removal of public library services for any community. I oppose SB 187.

I support more funding for the State of Hawaii Libraries to build community libraries where they are needed, and funding to have the libraries open in the evenings and on Saturdays to increase access for working adults and busy families. However, SB 187 does not to *that.*

Until the State of Hawaii has the funds to either build a community library, or increase staff specifically to provide more community-friendly hours that don't tread on library classes for students during the day, this bill is completely inappropriate.

The community of 'Ewa is large and growing with many young families. Residents would no longer have easy access to library services where they live. The public and school library also provides library services for neighboring schools that may not have their own school library. We know that many schools are closing their libraries and this would be a loss not only of public library services for non-students but also for the students of nearby schools. A high school library would not necessarily meet the needs of middle and elementary school students from nearby schools.

Public libraries provide access to lifelong learning, technology, entertainment, and much more for every community. Instead of removing public library services, an increase in the hours of the public library and providing additional resources to the library would be a better solution.

Mahalo,
Vanessa Ott

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**SB 187
Relating to a Library in Ewa Beach**

Monday, February 10, 2025
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Submitted by Patsy Nanbu

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Patsy Nanbu and I **strongly oppose** SB 187, Relating to a Library in Ewa Beach.

I am a retired citizen and moving a public library to a school campus would reduce my access to library services. A library provides access to lifelong learning, technology and entertainment. Increasing library hours and providing additional resources to the library is better than moving a library onto a school campus.

Please **do not** pass SB 187. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 6:09:44 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Neeli Clute | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As an educator with a neuroscience degree, I understand the full nature of what the lack of access to a library does to the mind, particularly for residents with fewer resources.

It is crucial on many levels, for every age group to have access to literature and computers for a community to thrive. Parents need to be able to access books for young children at crucial learning windows. It matters deeply to the future of the children and the development of intelligence for all ages. I oppose the closure of this library, particularly in rural areas like Ewa beach.

Mahalo for your attention to this vital resource.

Neeli

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 7:21:25 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kathy Fay | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose this bill to remove the Ewa Beach library from the public library system. Ewa Beach is a growing community with many young families. They need easy access to library resources for all ages which a high school library would not necessarily provide.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 8:09:00 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Patricia Zura | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a rural library user, anything that increases the already long driving distance to a public library for the general public is a bad idea. Adding 20 minutes to a suburban trip to the library is also a bad idea. Hawaii's public library system has been a lifeline for this avid reader.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 8:19:02 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Delia Clark | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a parent of two very recent James Campbell High School graduates, I asked for their thoughts prior to submitting this testimony. Both my daughters graduated as the number one Valedictorian of their respective classes. They both agreed the library does not need to be owned by the school for student access or benefit to continue. I hereby strongly submit this testimony.

Protect Our Community Library: A Vital Resource for All

The Ewa Beach Community Library is more than just a building filled with books—it is the heart of our community, a place of learning, connection, and opportunity for people of all ages. The proposal to turn our **community library** over to a school would drastically limit access for residents, depriving countless individuals of the vital resources and services they rely on daily.

A Library for Everyone, Not Just a Few

The Ewa Beach library serves **students, families, kupuna, and working professionals** alike. It is a sanctuary for job seekers preparing for interviews, parents reading to their children, and seniors finding a place of belonging. Unlike a school library, which primarily serves its enrolled students and faculty, a **community library is open to all, regardless of age, background, or educational status.**

Educational Equity & Lifelong Learning

Closing public access to the Ewa Beach library would create **a major gap in educational resources** for those who do not attend the school. Many families rely on the library’s **free tutoring, internet access, and literacy programs**—services that may not continue under school administration. Adults pursuing higher education, individuals seeking career advancement, and community members simply looking to expand their knowledge would lose a **critical, free learning space.**

A Hub for Community Connection

The Ewa Beach library is more than a collection of books—it is **a gathering place that fosters unity, cultural enrichment, and civic engagement.** It hosts **public events, workshops, and**

discussions that bring together people from all walks of life. If turned over to a school, these inclusive programs could be eliminated or severely restricted.

The Consequences of Restricting Access

If this transition occurs, where will the **home-schooled children, seniors, and underprivileged families** go for free educational resources? Where will residents without internet access go to apply for jobs, complete online coursework, or stay connected in an increasingly digital world? The loss of this library as a community resource would create barriers to **equity, education, and opportunity**.

For all these reasons, I strongly oppose turning the Ewa Beach Community Library over to James Campbell High School. Doing so would take away an essential resource that serves everyone, not just a select few. Our library must remain a place of equal access, lifelong learning, and community connection. I urge decision-makers to protect this vital space and keep it open for all who depend on it.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 9:49:57 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Penelope Parnes | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I am strongly opposed. Libraries serve as a central gathering space for people of all ages and backgrounds to connect, participate in programs, and access knowledge. Furthermore, libraries provide knowledge at little cost to participants, advance literacy, and strengthen community ties. Every community deserves a library. The Ewa Beach library is well used and loved. It is irresponsible and unconscionable to remove community access. If the bill introducers do not frequent libraries I'd recommend that they do so before judging their worth.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 9:52:47 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nancy Lord | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

This library is a vital resource to the entire community and should not be limited for student use only. Ewa Beach has very few opportunities for learning enrichment, community engagement, and positive social interaction. Limiting this library's public access would be detrimental to this struggling and challenged neighborhood. We must continue to strive for forward progress, not digressing backwards. As a regular patron of this public library, I vehemently oppose SB187.

Nancy Lord

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 9:52:50 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Daphne (Delta) Westcot | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I do not support this bill as this library serves a dual purpose in this community of the Ewa area which is far from other libraries. The High School, middle school and elementary schools close by are able to use it as a needed resource for learning and is often used by teachers and the public who also share access to it. Project based learning requires many resources and library use can be important for researching information and learning that process as well as learning how to read factual information. It would be a travesty to deny Ewa this community resource.

February 9, 2025

Chair Michelle Kidani
Senate Committee on Education
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**Re: Senate Bill 187
Relating to the Ewa Beach Public & School Library**

Dear Chair Kidani and members of the Education Committee:

I strongly oppose SB187 requiring the transfer of the Ewa Beach Public and School Library from the State Public Library System to the James Campbell High School.

The Ewa Beach Public and School Library, built in 1971 on the James Campbell High School campus, provides library services and programs to the community. Ewa Beach has a thriving population of 15,202 individuals with a per capita income of \$33,689. Over 100,000 patron services are provided in this branch each year.

To make a public library less accessible to the community it serves would create a huge void in services and programs. Programs at this library include preschool story time, connecting to and navigating the internet, computer basics, read to therapy dogs, lego free play, chess play, and family movie nights.

In a time of burgeoning misinformation being circulated, the public libraries provide essential, reliable, and verifiable information. Removing this valuable asset for the Ewa Beach Community would be devastating to that community.

I urge you to oppose SB187.

Sincerely,
Roberta Cestare

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 10:52:04 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Sunyeen Pai | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Dear Chair and Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on Education,

I am writing asking this committee to stop SB 187, RELATING TO A LIBRARY IN EWA BEACH. I am a former professor and librarian, retired from our community college system. The Ewa Beach community deserves both a public library and a school library, and they should remain distinct centers of service with sufficient resources to support the public and the school. Public libraries serve people of all ages who have very different schedules, information needs, and transportation challenges than school children. School libraries serve school children by being there for them during their school hours, teaching them learning skills that prepare them for school assignments, post-high school education, and the workforce. School libraries must also focus on digital literacy, teaching young impressionable minds how to wade through the misinformation generated online. The Ewa Beach community deserves these two distinct services, and both should be resourced fully to service this community.

Yours truly,

Sunny Pai, PhD

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 11:07:17 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Erin Weiss | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a parent of three children in high school, middle school, and elementary school in Ewa Beach, I cannot overstate how important our library is to our family and our community. This is not just a place to check out books—it is a hub for learning, engagement, and connection, especially for students who may not have other educational resources available.

To ensure accuracy, here are the library’s correct hours:

- Monday & Tuesday: 12 PM – 7 PM
- Wednesday & Thursday: 9 AM – 4 PM
- Friday: 11 AM – 4 PM

Additionally, Campbell High School students have access throughout school hours, even when the library is not open to the public. These details are available on the library website and posted at the entrance, so incorrect information should not be used in this proposal.

This is not an affluent community, and our library provides services that are critical for many families:

- Young children participate in story times and literacy programs, sometimes with therapy dogs that even older students enjoy.
- Kupuna rely on it for Bingo games, computer literacy classes, and free tax help.
- Older kids and teens find enrichment in chess games and educational activities.
- Families enjoy movie nights and LEGO free play.
- Every holiday season, Karol’s Karolers bring people together with a Christmas concert that celebrates our community spirit.

What’s even more concerning is that Ilima Intermediate and Ewa Makai Middle Schools do not have libraries, and Pohakea Elementary’s media center does not have a librarian. Instead of

taking away this library, why aren't we working to ensure more students have access to these essential resources?

I strongly urge you to visit and see how much our community relies on this library. Please do not take away this vital space that provides educational support and enrichment for families like ours.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 11:22:58 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Connor Weiss | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a parent of four children attending high school, middle school, and elementary school in Ewa Beach, I am deeply concerned about the potential loss of our library. This library is not just a place with books, it is a vital resource that supports learning, provides safe spaces, and offers programs that benefit families like mine and many others in our community.

Before any decisions are made, I want to ensure the correct library hours are known:

Monday & Tuesday: 12 PM - 7 PM

Wednesday & Thursday: 9 AM - 4 PM

Friday: 11 AM - 4 PM

Additionally, students from Campbell High School have access throughout all school hours, even when the library is closed to the public. This information is clearly listed on the library website and posted at the entrance. There is no reason for misinformation to be included in this proposal.

Ewa Beach is not an affluent area, and for many families, this library provides free services they might not otherwise afford:

- Children benefit from story time, educational programs, and visits from therapy dogs – an event that even high schoolers love.

- Kupuna rely on the library for Bingo days, computer literacy classes, and free tax preparation assistance.

- Older kids and teens have a place to engage in chess games and other learning opportunities.

- Families come together for movie nights and LEGO free play.

- Every year, Karol's Karolers bring the holiday spirit with a Christmas concert that unites the community.

Even more concerning, Ilima Intermediate and Ewa Makai Middle Schools do not have libraries at all, and Pohakea Elementary's media center lacks a librarian. Instead of taking away this essential resource, why aren't we working to ensure all students have access to library services?

Our library is an essential part of our children's education and development. I urge you to visit and see firsthand how much this space means to our community. Please do not take away this critical resource from the families who depend on it.

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 11:25:07 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Ellen-Rae Cachola | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Dear Members of the Education Committee.

Please oppose SB 187 Transfer Campbell Library from HSPLS to DOE.

Public libraries serve other members of the community who are currently not in school, such as pre-school, parents, workers, senior citizens, and retirees. If the public library transfers to the school, it will require the school librarian to deal with public patrons in addition to school patrons. How will the school environment be impacted if community patrons start to visit the school library as a public library? What will the pressure be for the school's parking, the school library staffing, the school campus security staffing, and the school facilities resources?

If there are less hours in the public library, it is because they need more funding to serve the public and school patrons which will require staying open for longer periods of time. If we reduce the presence of libraries in the Ewa Beach community, it will put pressure on one library to have to do so much, when what really is needed is more state financial support to keep multiple libraries open to serve diverse user needs.

Keeping the Ewa Beach public library open and managed under the Hawai'i State Public Library System (HSPLS) is more appropriate than the Department of Education (DOE). While the DOE does influence the HSPLS, the Hawai'i State Librarian will be able to provide focused professional support to public library workers. The DOE has so many other types of professional support to provide for principals, teachers, counselors, and school librarians. By keeping the Ewa Beach public library under the HSPLS, it will keep management of those public librarians more organized and consistent with its professional community and service duties.

Sincerely,

Ellen-Rae Cachola

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 4:25:16 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| John Rogers | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and Committee Members

I oppose SB187 which requires the Department of Education to transfer the Ewa Beach Public and School Library from the State Public Library System to James Campbell High School.

The legislature should provide legislation to fund a school librarian to open the library for school use or fund a library that would be located at the school.

This is the Ewa Community Library transferring it to the DOE could change the content this library currently contains.

Very Respectfully,

John Rogers

Ewa NB #23 Member

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 4:51:52 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Cedric Duarte | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I'm concerned that this bill would limit the public's access to the Ewa Beach Public and School Library. If the library becomes a part of the school, they will have to limit access to keep the students safe. While the bill is well-intended to improve student access, this transfer could limit the public from having access to the library. The library has been essential to my 'ohana. My children have grown up using the library for books, and we even borrow DVDs from time to time. Please explore alternative solutions that address accessibility concerns.

- Extending library hours to accommodate students after school.
- Allocating additional funding to hire more staff.
- Establishing partnerships between the State Library and the DOE to improve student access without eliminating public use.

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 5:09:52 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Eileen M Gawrys DNP | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB 187 SB RELATING TO A LIBRARY IN EWA BEACH. The American Library Association is quite clear about Schools and Minors' Rights, as quoted below:

[Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights* \(2019\)](#)

Library policies and procedures that effectively deny minors equal and equitable access to all library resources available to other users violate the Library Bill of Rights. The American Library Association opposes all attempts to restrict access to library services, materials, and facilities based on the age of library users.

[Access to Resources and Services in the School Library: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights* \(2014\)](#)

The school library plays a unique role in promoting intellectual freedom. It serves as a point of voluntary access to information and ideas and as a learning laboratory for students as they acquire critical thinking and problem-solving skills needed in a pluralistic society. Although the educational level and program of the school necessarily shapes the resources and services of a school library, the principles of the Library Bill of Rights apply equally to all libraries, including school libraries.

[Minors and Online Activity: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights* \(2019\)](#)

The digital environment offers opportunities both for accessing information created by others and for creating and sharing new information. The rights of minors to retrieve, interact with, and create information posted on the Internet in schools and libraries are extensions of their First Amendment rights.

Currently, Ewa library patrons have access to materials in the entire Hawai'i State Library System. By cutting off this resource, the materials in the Ewa library will be limited and become dated, neither of which is supportive of students' educational pursuits.

If the issue is librarian coverage and hours, it seems that bills and funding should address those issues and not cut off resources with such a drastic measure.

Since this bill was introduced by GOP representatives, I question that the intent is toward censorship vs. concern for student education.

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 7:52:46 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Loures Tupper | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. This is Ewa Beach's only library for our community. I have children that currently go to Campbell as students, and I know not that many Campbell students utilize the library right now. I believe the library should continue to be the Community and school library, so that both entities can use this important resource. I have been going to the library since I myself was at Campbell high school, and took my children since they were babies. We enjoyed going to story time, the free movie showings and participating in the summer reading program. Fostering a love for reading should be a lifetime endeavor, not just reserved for the students at Campbell high school. The entire community has and should continue to benefit from the Ewa Beach library.

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 7:56:07 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Lanette Pascua | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

SB187 Ewa Beach Community and School Library

I am submitting this testimony because I do not support sb187 for the following reasons:

-hours of operation: if the hours of operation are subject to state library funding, will there be more funding under the DOE to afford changing the hours of operation to make it easier for the students of Campbell high school, Pohakea elementary school and Ilima intermediate school to use the library?

- how does transferring the public library to James Campbell high school affect the community using the library?

- will the library under the DOE still offer inter-library loans as the public library under the state library system does? I was interested in the story behind the IKEA company. There is only one book in our state library system that has this book, and that is the Hilo public library. I was able to borrow that book through the Ewa Beach library and enjoy reading about the history of the IKEA company. I am a kupuna, and prefer to not drive; if I use the bus system to pick up and return an inter-library loan book from the Kapolei library, I would need to transfer buses; if I use the bus system to pick up and return an inter-library loan book from the Waipahu library, I would need to walk about a block to get to the library.

I suggest that there should be a process where the library administration gathers feedback from the community they serve to be able to serve their community better.

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 9:22:56 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Nicole Katekaru | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB187. Removal of public library services from the wider 'Ewa community will limit access to vital resources and services that community members, including students from neighboring schools, rely on. Providing additional resources or increasing public library hours would be a better solution than removing a public library from a community that depends on its services.

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 8:58:49 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Will | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Committee Chair and Committee Members,

SB187 is a bad idea. Ewa Beach library is a community asset. It is a safe place and quiet place for all. It can and should be shared with the surrounding community.

With computers and the Internet, students have more options for research and information and don't need a library the way I used one when I was in my youth.

Sharing is the way to go with the Ewa Beach library. Please defer or kill SB187.

Will Espero

Retired State Senator

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 10:04:16 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Susan Debina | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I am opposing, that the Department of Education and Senato Kurt Favella is requesting to transfer the Ewa Beach Public and School Library from the State Public Library System to James Campbell High School. Our Ewa Beach Senator Kurt Favella is submitting a Bill SB 187.

I am a long time resident of Ewa Beach and which I graduated from James Campbell High School in 1968. I am very upsent and angry, that Senator Favella is submitting this bill.

I take my 9 years old and 12 years old grandsons to the Ewa Beach Library every 2 weeks, to borrow books, because their school is required for them to read books for 20-30 minutes Monday thru Friday. They both have to log their minutes online for their school. I am a Senior citizen, which I am going to go to the Computer classes, this month in February. I also attend craft classes, Bingo activities and adult activitives that they have at Ewa Beach Library. They also have movies and different children activities during the month.

So if the Ewa Beach Library get transfer to JCHS, where do we go! Kapolei & Waipahu, are too far for us. Please, I ask you, to keep our Ewa Beach Public and School Library, as is! I don't want this to change. I will start a petition with the people of Ewa Beach, to save our Library as is.

I appreciate your co-operation in this matter! Mahalo, Susan Debina

LATE

TESTIMONY OF
LARRY S VERAY

TO THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

IN STRONG OPPOSITION OF SB187

RELATED TO A LIBRARY IN EWA BEACH

February 9, 2025

Aloha, Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and committee members. I am Larry Veray, Chairman for the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21 and I am submitting this testimony as an individual and with concern for all individuals and families in Ewa Beach but in particular, I have numerous family friends in Ewa Beach.

This bill would shut down the current state managed library and move the library to Campbell High School placed under the management of Department of Education. It would limit the public to use with the library being on school property. We have many seniors who use the library in Hawai'i and if you look at the latest improvements around the city, you will see modernization and access to digital files. Instead of moving the current library, lawmakers should be seeking CIP funds to expand operations for their residents with easy access to the building and having a very reliable state managed library with a dedicated funding stream. **I am in STRONG OPPOSITION OF SB187. Please DO NOT PASS.** Mahalo!

Larry S. Veray

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 5:51:26 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Michael Plowman | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

SB187 fails to address impacts to the community with respect to access to the general public.

SB187 fails to disclose proposed operating hours.

SB187 would seem to eliminate the ability for community members to order books from other libraries within the State Library System, which is quite valuable to students of local schools and homeschooling families.

Given the vague language with respect to interactivity with the State Library system, public access, and operating hours, I cannot support SB187 as written.

LATE

Nathan Tran
Feb 4th,2025

Testimony

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

My name is Nathan Tran and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187

How much would students be able to excel with more resources and facilities to help aid their learning. I believe The public library should be given to James Campbell High School. Personally I have constantly run into roadblocks with completing my work at home, with most schools switching to giving work and assignments out electronically. It has been a challenge finding a way to complete work without the necessary materials. I feel with the library in James Campbell High School's hands students will have an open window to excel in their studies, with the library owned by James Campbell High School it will be more accessible to teachers as well allowing them to schedule visits with students to the library. There are some concerns of stranger danger trouble with the library open to every it also allows anyone to walk in and bother students or other member of the community,in response and an increase in students and

members of the public I believe there should be an increase in security or checks decreasing any chances of someone potentially ill or unwell being able to walk into the library freely. I believe with the library being handed to James Campbell High School it will not only see more use it will greatly help both students and community with school work or even help people research topics if at home they do not have the materials to do so. I do not stand for only me, I stand for my community and my fellow students, we all believe this library will do nothing but benefit our community and schools.

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 9:28:34 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Vanessa Sanchez | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

My name is Vanessa Sanchez and I am a teacher at James Campbell High School. I am writing in strong support of SB187, which would transfer ownership of the public library currently located on our school campus to James Campbell High School. This transfer would be a significant benefit to our students, our faculty, and our community.

Currently, the library's operating hours and accessibility are limited, which restricts its potential to serve our student population fully. Granting ownership to the school would unlock numerous opportunities and address critical needs within our educational environment.

Firstly, the additional space would greatly alleviate our current shortage of meeting areas. Our faculty often struggles to find suitable locations for collaborative planning, parent-teacher conferences, and student support meetings. Having access to the library's facilities would provide much-needed flexible space, allowing us to better serve our students and families.

Secondly, and perhaps most importantly, this transfer would create a vital bridge across the digital divide and promote equity among our students. Currently, students are required to have a library card to use the library's technology services. This serves as a barrier to many students who cannot complete the application and supporting documents for a library card. Many of our students lack reliable internet access and technology at home. Extending the library's hours and making its resources available after school would provide these students with a safe and supportive environment to complete homework, conduct research, and develop essential technology skills. This access is crucial for their academic success and future opportunities. It levels the playing field, ensuring that all students, regardless of their socioeconomic background, have the resources they need to thrive.

Finally, the library would become a safe and supervised space for students to gather after school. This is particularly important for students who may not have a safe or supportive home environment. The library would offer a positive alternative, providing a place for students to study, socialize, and participate in enriching activities under the guidance of responsible adults. This safe haven is essential for fostering a sense of community and belonging, which are critical components of student well-being.

Transferring ownership of the library to James Campbell High School is not just about bricks and mortar; it's about investing in our students' future. It's about creating a more equitable,

supportive, and enriching learning environment. I urge you to support SB187 and make this vision a reality for our students and our community.

Thank you,

Vanessa Sanchez

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 9:49:06 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|
| Sabrina Apple | Testifying for James Campbell High School | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

This bill is important because the literacy rate at James Campbell is quite low, and having a school library will increase our schools literacy. Various studies have shown that having adequate access to books encourages students to read more, and thus do better in school. A correlation between students' use of libraries, and GPA and retention rate have been found. Moving the library from the hands of the state to the department of education will create more convenient hours for students, too. Currently, the hours clash with school and work schedules, limiting the accessibility of the library, not just for the people attending James Campbell High School, but the surrounding schools and community.

In my experience, many schools give students reading logs along with reading goals to meet, however without adequate library hours, many students don't read or even end up lying on those sheets. I know many parents and even students don't like lying, but knowing they don't have a simple way of getting books, causes them to lie. By creating new hours, not only will students of James Campbell be able to get books easily, but the new hours may benefit the families that want to borrow books after school/work, too.

If students gain access to more books, the literacy rate of the school increases, everyone's overall knowledge increases, and the sense of community people get from studying in the library with friends or eventually getting familiar with other avid attenders. Over all, the bill would hiighly benefit the community.

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 9:45:33 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Lutely Mei Suguitan | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

My name is Lutely Mei Suguitan and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187.

To begin, I believe that SB 187 will be highly useful for the students of James Campbell high school, Ilima Intermediate school, and Pohakea elementary school. The current hours of the library collide with school hours, limiting students' ability to come or use the library. This prevents any usage of the library's services.

The library's resources, such as computers, books, internet, and even the space could be used more efficiently with adjusted hours, as these resources are useful for a variety of reasons. For example, the library's books could allow students to gain more knowledge on different subjects, leading to academic improvement. Access to the library's computers and the internet gives students with limited resources the ability to exercise their full potential in schoolwork. The library's quiet atmosphere can also be used for tutor or study sessions, without distractions or a constricting time limit, which many students do not have at home. Students could form study groups, where they can collaborate and make connections with each other whilst boosting their education and enhancing their social lives. This not only benefits high school students but intermediate and elementary students too, since the content in the library consists of different levels of education, K-12. Teachers too can use the library, whether it's for creating or elevating lesson plans, or providing material for students. College students within the ewa beach community may also use the library for these purposes in their studies.

Transferring the public library under the school benefits the Ewa Beach community as well. A change in the hours allow for flexibility, especially since the current hours may overlap with work hours. The library offers a space for business or community meetings or events, facilitating engagement within our community. People can also find a variety of opportunities, such as working in libraries or using the library's materials for job searching or skill development. More people within our community can take advantage of the library's resources, which people may not have access to otherwise. This accessibility can also be used for anyone of all ages, as many people may seek a calm environment to unwind or achieve personal goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Lutely Mei Suguitan

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 10:29:33 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Danica Baysa | Testifying for Campbell High School | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha,

At James Campbell High School we are fortunate to have dedicated teachers and staff who care about our success, but one thing we need is a school library. As one of the few schools in Oahu without a library, we are missing out on a vital resource for our academic growth. A library would provide access to books, research materials, and quiet spaces to study, helping us succeed in our studies and fostering a love for reading. A school library is essential for maintaining and improving our education, and it's something every student here truly needs.

Sincerely,

Danica Baysa

Grade 12

Student, JCHS

Baldonado, Janzen
Raguindin-Yara, Christopher
English 10
2/4/2025



At Campbell, there are students, teachers, faculty, and more who strive to be better than they already are. As we continue to develop and change we need new resources for every person in the Ewa Beach community, we need a new place for interactions, and more especially pertaining to education. The main problem of the community library is its hours of operation. The library, although open to almost everyone in the community, does not offer hours of operation that go hand in hand with students and teachers around the community.

This bill will impact the future of education in Hawaii. Coming from experience, I am a 4.00 GPA student who constantly strives to do his best and I have seen multiple of my friends and peers who often are behind on work. To help us, giving an environment where we can learn in peace with multiple resources, education, ect. All around us, in the library, gives us a better chance of us succeeding even more to our own capabilities. In summary, the library gives us more educational prowess and opportunities with a quiet place, no distractions, and education at the palm of our hands.

Not only does this bill affect students, but it will also affect teachers. Teachers also gain benefits by having educational books to share with their students and possibly take students there for testing, learning, and more. But also connections among other teachers. With the library teachers can hold meetings about material covered in classes, problems, solutions, and more.

Yes, opening the library will come with many benefits. But there will be negatives. One would be the stranger danger, this is still a community library so when we open it to Campbell. We are at risk of "stranger danger". Something that could solve this is offering more security at the library, allowing students to not only get a better education but also to feel safe.

If the bill is passed, it would be very beneficial for students and teachers, not only Campbell, but for other schools around the area. The library would be a major contributor for the future of Ewa Beach!

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 9:47:30 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Lillian Adams | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Senate Education Committee

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

My name is Lillian Adams and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187.

From a young age, I've always had a deep love for reading and a fondness for libraries. Libraries and books have shaped a significant part of who I am today. Throughout my life, nearly every new school I attended had a library, each one a sanctuary of knowledge and imagination. At each of these schools, students were allowed to visit the library freely during breaks, with no restrictions or complications. I grew accustomed to having easy access to this resource, and it became a natural part of my school experience. That's why, when I reached my freshman year, I was quite surprised to learn that such freedom wasn't universal. I found out that the library was not accessible during free time and had limited hours. As someone with a packed schedule, it became increasingly difficult to find a time when I could visit the library without conflicting with other commitments. If the library were made a part of the school, it would not only benefit me but all students with demanding schedules.

Integrating the library into the daily life of the school would allow students to have much greater access to this essential resource. More flexible hours would make it easier for students to visit, whether to study, read, or complete assignments. This would provide a quieter and more focused environment for those who need it, and it would also foster a deeper appreciation for books and learning. Beyond just students, this change would also offer significant benefits to teachers. Teachers could use the library's resources for lessons, whether by holding small classes in the space or using the extensive materials available.

Additionally, the conference rooms within the library could serve as venues for meetings or collaborative activities, providing much-needed flexibility for staff.

While there are undeniable benefits to increasing access to the library, some concerns, such as safety, must also be addressed. Given that the library is open to the public, there could be issues with some individuals entering the space with malcontent, which may raise security concerns. To counteract this, I propose the installation of security measures, such as monitored entrances or a staff member overseeing the library during its open hours. This would ensure that students are safe and that any potential issues, like stranger danger, are handled swiftly and efficiently. With these precautions in place, students can enjoy the freedom to explore the library without fear of intrusion or danger.

Incorporating the library as a more central and accessible part of school life would significantly enhance the educational experience for all students. With greater access, a safer environment, and the ability to utilize the library's resources more freely, both students and teachers would benefit. This integration would foster a greater love for learning and create a space that encourages intellectual growth and creativity. It's an opportunity to provide students with the resources they need to succeed, while also ensuring their safety and well-being.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Lillian Adams

LATE

Senate Education Committee

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

My name is Sophia Claire Martinez and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187.

I feel I have more of a connection with the library in elementary school, compared to the one we have at James Campbell High School. While in elementary school, I was able to have access to a sizable library. It gave students an opportunity to be immersed in a substantial amount of information based on their free will of borrowing books.

The current hours of the library pose problems with many students. When you have extra curricular activities, it creates difficulty to visit the library. As a student in band, my school day officially ends at 3:30 pm. It also takes time to pack up my instrument, clean up my area, and head to the library. All of a sudden, it is already 3:45 and the library closes in 15 minutes. This type of schedule is frequent among other students at James Campbell High School. For students that may want to visit the library directly after school on a Wednesday, they will have to wait until 2:00 for the library to reopen. Overall, these confusing hours bring an inconvenience to many students at James Campbell High School.

Being an AP student introduces an immense amount of reading, analyzing, taking notes, and more. Such things that will go beyond 30 minutes in your bedroom. Having a study space for students should be a factor that's thought about in all schools. For our students, this primary area would be the library. It will bring students a place to have a quiet environment as we study for our different classes and complete long chapters of our textbooks. As of late, many students try to find alternative places to study on the weekends, as our own public library isn't open for us. Having this space under James Campbell High School will bring more positives towards our thousands of students who are committed to their hard work.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,
Sophia Claire Martinez

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 9:49:06 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Elaena Kissell | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee.

My name is Elaena Kissell, and I am a sophomore at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Bill 187.

The library, to students, provides a great number of resources, but one I would like to focus on is how its space being accessible to the school can improve enthusiasm for learning.

The library is a comfortable, managed environment that allows concentrated learning. Studying there, for me, has helped me feel much more focused and motivated, because it is a place full of intentional learners. Furthermore, the library is a great place for study groups. Although I've wanted to, myself and many other students have found it difficult to create study groups, because there was no place big enough or quiet enough to study without distraction. For this reason, if the library were more available to students, I feel it would be most occupied by study groups & motivated students.

Currently, I feel that this library is underutilized, as I often see many rooms empty. However, I think its space has great potential—it can be a place to hold meetings, events, or even classes. I know of an online course that has been taught to students in the library during its open hours, and I believe this practice can be considerably beneficial. Important online classes or other lessons being taught in person in a structured environment can greatly improve learning.

For these reasons, I believe opening the library to the school and adjusting its hours can open up a window of opportunities for community-building through group-study and other assemblies.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Elaena Kissell

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 9:51:02 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Corwin Colbert | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

My name is Corwin and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187.

The library that protrudes into the school campus is locked from the front at all times forcing students to have to find a way to the back of the school in order to even enter the library but students have after school programs that forces them not to be able to come until possibly after hours and then during the weekend when students are the most free it is closed so students are forced to go find the closest library which is 6 miles away. So we are proposing that the library be turned into a school library that is still open to the public so that students can use the library for schoolwork or other opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Corwin Colbert

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 9:51:07 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Shanelle Hocog | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

[Senate Education Committee](#)

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

My name is Shanelle Hocog and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187.

Incorporating the Ewa Beach Public Library into James Campbell High School offers numerous opportunities for students. Our school hosts various clubs, and many students enjoy reading and studying. Accessing the library's resources can help them excel in their coursework or enjoy a good book. Additionally, some clubs struggle to find suitable rooms for meetings, as many clubs have a large number of students participating, which makes it difficult to accommodate everyone in smaller spaces.

With the established hours of the library, students currently can't use it during school. Some students aren't able to do homework or study at home due to conflicts with after-school practice or other issues that prevent them from doing so. The improvement of the conflicted hours can support students. Another issue that can be resolved is when students cannot find a quiet place during school to complete things. Lunch is outside and sometimes they aren't able to complete work in class.

Some teachers leave classrooms locked so students aren't able to sit in there. They would have to resort to sitting outside on the ground. Opening the library during school hours allows them to find a quiet place to work efficiently and comfortably without distractions. Many students enjoy reading, as well as myself, but some don't have library cards. With the library being open to students during school hours, they can enjoy reading and some downtime. On a personal level, there are times when I am tired; I want to sit down and relax in a quiet area. I would be able to use the library during school hours and have that

time to myself. Opening the library more to James Campbell High School is beneficial for the students in the long run.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Shanelle Hocog

Troy Ritte
Christopher Raguindin-Yara
English 10
04 February 2024

Library in Ewa Beach Argument

As we develop over time we require change, through change we can improve our society. At James Campbell High school there are many students and many students require the use of the library although many students can not alter their schedules just to use the library therefore we should give the library to James Campbell HS in order to allow students to make use of the library during school hours.

While the idea of having a public library being implemented into James Campbell HS seems like too big of a change, it would allow for students that need to use the library more time to make use of it. Many students at James Campbell HS have extracurricular activities after school and are not able to make use of the library after school due to the library hours being short. If we make it possible for students to make use of the library during school hours it would completely fix the problem of students being unable to use the library and to do that the public library would need to be given to James Campbell HS.

The idea of completely giving the public library to James Campbell HS does come with its cons but the pros do outweigh the cons, while you may argue that giving the library to James Campbell HS would anger the public, it won't as long it is still accessible to the public and it will help students that use the library to study and do work regardless. The problem of "stranger danger" but having security guards to monitor the building and students would fix those problems. As many students from James Campbell HS do want to make use of the library during school hours it makes more sense to accommodate the students of the school in order to allow for better education.

The library being given to James Campbell HS not only benefits the students but also the faculty and staff as it would allow meetings to take place in the library. It would also serve as an educational facility that would allow for more opportunities for students to gain education and learning. An argument can be made about the jobs of the library workers but James Campbell having such a big student population makes the budget not much of a problem as well as the idea of having student volunteers in the library. Having student volunteers would allow students to learn how to work in libraries and gain community service hours as well which is both beneficial to the library workers and students.

While there are still cons that could be discussed but there are many pros that are very evident. Giving the library to James Campbell HS would be very beneficial to students, faculty and staff

of James Campbell as well as be beneficial to the library workers being given help and opportunity to interact with potential coworkers. The library would greatly benefit many of the people of the community if given to James Campbell and would allow many students to actually make use of the library that wasn't available to them before.

Troy Ritte
2941500330@k12.hi.us
96706
Supporting

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,
My name is Troy Ritte and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187. Bill 187 giving James Campbell High School allows for many students, faculty, and staff to make use of the library during hours that are decided by the school. Many students are unable to use the library after school as a study spot due to the short hours after school. Students like myself feel like that is unfair as the library is a close place near school that we can make use of to get a quick, quiet study spot. This bill would be beneficial to many students of James Campbell HS as well as myself and would allow for more opportunities for students.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,
Troy Ritte

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 9:56:20 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Cage Maestas | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Senate Bill 187

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

My name is Cage Maestas and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187. Granting students access to the 'Ewa Beach Community Library during school hours provides better opportunities for academic and personal growth. The library has a lot of resources, including books and technology that may not be available at school. Personally, I've used the library to study or understand stuff from my classes better. This could affect the community however from making them feel uncomfortable or stranger danger. We can solve this however with security and the people and items walking into the building. As well as cutting some parts of the library separating the students and community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Cage Maestas

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 9:56:32 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Peyton Linder | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

My name is Peyton and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187.

As a student at James Campbell Highschool, I am always in need of place to study. Im currently a sophomore, and I am taking AP world history, which requires many hours of studying and note taking. Along with many of my classmates, We wish to use the library more. The Library has many rooms for teachers to access too, and using those rooms can be beneficial for students who take early college courses, or teachers who want to give lectures outside of the classroom. Library hours overlap with school hours as well, making it difficult to use. Although some days we get around 2 hours to use the library at most, That is not enough time. Students take rigorous classes that give homework, and some students like myself, may not be able to focus at home. I wish for the library ownership to be transferred to JCHS, that way students like myself can make use of the library as a whole.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Peyton Linder

LATE

Testimony on Senate Bill 187

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

My name is Gillianne Maile Orosco and I am a student at James Campbell High School. I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 187.

As a high school student, I think that making the library more accessible could benefit me and my peers. In my experiences of being a high school student, me and my peers have school work that comes with a heavy work load and most students would need a quiet place where they can do their school work without any distractions. I relate to this a lot because if I'm doing my school work outside the library, for example like at my house will just distract me because of the noise that goes on. The library offers a quiet and less distracting environment for me and many other students to do their homework and study, and making the library more accessible for everyone can help students do work for long amounts of time without having to worry about their environment being too loud or distracting. I also know some peers who don't have access to certain things at home that the school doesn't provide but the library does. These are things like computers, books, or printers. This is especially with computers because a lot of teachers are starting to assign homework digitally and students doing their school work on their phone won't help too much. If the library is more accessible for students, they can come in at a time that is convenient for them and they could use the library's resources. So, Making the library more accessible to students could help them boost their education because they would have somewhere to focus on their school work and students could easily get their work done because students could access the library's resources at any time.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Gillianne Maile Orosco

LATE



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TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAI'I SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Item: **SB 187 - RELATING TO A LIBRARY IN EWA BEACH**

Position: **SUPPORT**

Hearing: **2/10/2025, Conference Room 229, 3:02pm**

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

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association stands in **strong support** of SB 187 which requires the Department of Education to transfer the Ewa Beach Public and School Library from the State Public Library System to James Campbell High School.

First and foremost, it is unacceptable that the largest high school in our state lacks a school library, and we commend Senator Fevella for bringing this bill forward. Having a library is the most basic baseline of equity of access to literacy, and resources. This bill makes sure that the largest concentration of high schoolers in our state actually have a school library.

Our HSTA members at James Campbell High School, and 'ilima Intermediate School are in strong support of this bill, after years of being frustrated that students cannot access this library when they need it. Students can't use the wifi, which is critical to working on projects and 21st century learning skills.

While we do empathize with community members worried about "losing" the library, it is our understanding from this bill that the public will still be able to use the space, but it will be managed by HIDOE. With the growing nature of the Ewa Beach community, it's time that a library similar to Kapolei or Nānākuli be built in a central space for the community to access.

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

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 11:43:57 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Ev Alacar | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a JCHS student, I find it important that the Ewa Beach Public Library be handed over to James Campbell High School. Already residing on school grounds, it only makes sense for JCHS high schoolers now and the future generation, to utilize the building. I do not believe it is fair that we can only use it occasionally. Students should be able to access it during lunch and not have to wait til after-school. If an agreement can be made between the citizens and the school I see that to be preferable as well.

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 11:54:54 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Priscilla Kobashigawa | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a concerend resident of Ewa Beach I oppose the transferring of Ewa Beach Library to JCHS.

I have been using the public library for over 30 years and I am currently a senior citizen. I use the library to attend classes which are held as well as utilizing the computer and printing documents. I also use the copying machine and borrow books.. The next public library is in Kapolei and it's farther for me to drive.

The families would also suffer because they take their children to the library to borrow books and also attend activities.

There are 51 public libraries in the state of Oahu. They have libraries in Waianae, Waipahu, Kapolei, Mililani , Pearl City, Aina Haina, etc.

How did you come up with this idea? Seems to me you don't care about the EWA BEACH community,. We need this for education and learning.

Sincerely, Concerned Ewa Beach Resident.

LATE

SB-187

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 11:59:27 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2025 3:02:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ridge Sasaki | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a student at James Campbell we have a lot of students and we don't have a library for our school. It could be very benfical for us to get at libary fro our shcool.