



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/08/2022

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: 309 Via Videoconference

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: HB 2494 RELATING TO CIVIC EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the expansion of civic education in the public schools and for one full-time equivalent permanent civic education resource teacher position.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2494 to provide funding for professional development and classroom resources related to the Hawaii Core Standards in Social Studies (HCSSS), adopted by the Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE) in 2018, and the establishment of 1.00 FTE civic education resource teacher position in Social Studies.

Such actions will provide much needed support to help students become critical consumers of information; take civic action such as voting, volunteering, and serving in leadership positions; increase informational literacy skills; and participate fully in the community.

The realization of these goals will be much more likely with curricular and personnel support. Such support would include materials and resources to assist schools across the state to implement the new shifts of the HCSSS in the following ways:

- From narrow perspectives to global perspectives;
- From a predominately Western viewpoint to multicultural viewpoints;
- From merely learning about citizenship to practicing democratic citizenship within communities;
- From individualism to collaboration, dialogue, and deliberation; and
- From memorizing facts to the application of knowledge to solve real-life issues,

problems, and concerns.

Impact on Professional Learning: The paradigm shifts in social studies teaching and learning require focused efforts to provide both the necessary tools in the form of resources and materials and a position to provide the professional development needed to learn, practice, and incorporate these shifts. The supports in this bill will assist schools and complexes by:

- Identifying knowledge gaps;
- Collaboratively developing iterative, data-informed plans for teacher development and student support;
- Providing high-quality professional development;
- Creating structures for standards implementation;
- Strengthening school and complex area social studies leadership and relationships; and
- Focusing on highly effective, student-centered practices that improve schools and raise student achievement.

Impact on Students: One of the longtime goals of public education is to produce young people who are fully ready to participate in the democratic process. This requires high-quality social studies instruction and curricular materials. These materials will assist students to:

- Apply civic virtues and democratic principles;
- Practice source analysis with documents, images, visual and audio media, and artifacts;
- Develop media literacy skills to discern bias, authenticity, and relevance; and
- Engage in collaborative civic dialogue and deliberative processes to address issues and problems in government and civic society.

By supporting students with meaningful and appropriate resources and powerful instruction, they will become critical thinkers and communicators who know how to take meaningful action.

The Department appreciates this proposal and the inclusion of funding but asks that any additional funding does not affect the Department's top budget priorities to restore funds that were reduced as a result of the fiscal fallout from COVID-19 and the funding of existing budget shortfalls that were included in the Department's supplemental budget request. Without those funds, the Department will face severe constraints on its ability to continue to promote equity and access to needed resources and support for all students.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 2494.

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 9:29:17 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Keith Hayashi	Hawaii Department of Education	Support	Yes

Comments:

Support

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2494

February 8, 2022
2:00 p.m.
Room 309 and Videoconference

RELATING TO CIVIC EDUCATION

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

House Bill No. 2494 establishes 1.00 full-time equivalent position and appropriates \$184,000 in general funds for FY 23 for the expansion of civic education in public schools.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Testimony to the Thirty-First Legislature, 2022 Regular Session

House Committee on Education
Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair
Rep. Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

House Committee on Economic Development
Rep. Sean Quinlan, Chair
Rep. Daniel Holt, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309
Via Videoconferencing

By

Chief Judge Lisa M. Ginoza, Intermediate Court of Appeals
Chair, Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education (PACE Commission)

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 2494, Relating to Civic Education

Purpose: Appropriates funds for the expansion of civic education in the public schools and for one full-time equivalent permanent civic education resource teacher position.

PACE Commission Position: Strong support

The PACE Commission strongly supports this bill which would be a significant step toward improving civic education in Hawaii's public schools. Currently, the Department of Education (DOE) does not have a position solely focused and dedicated to supporting civic education. There is also a significant shortage in resources, professional development, training and support for developing teachers to teach civics and to support those who are teaching civics. This bill appropriates necessary funds to expand civic education, including through professional development and classroom resources. Further, and critically, this bill appropriates funds to hire a full-time permanent civic education resource teacher. Currently, the DOE has an Educational Specialist for Social Studies who has statewide responsibilities related to civic

education, but who also has multiple other broad statewide duties far beyond civics. To have the type of resources, training and development needed for robust civic education from K-12 in public schools, it is imperative to have focused attention in this important area.

The PACE Commission was created last year because many in our State recognize the need to focus on civic education in our schools and in our community. The more we can improve civic education and civic engagement, the more we can improve civic knowledge and participation in our democracy and in our communities. It is important at this time to take action in this area and this bill is a crucial step in the right direction.

Brief background of the PACE Commission:

The PACE Commission was created pursuant to Rule 23 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of the State of Hawai'i, issued on January 7, 2021. The purpose of the PACE Commission is to promote and advance civic education for students and citizens throughout Hawai'i. The commission has fourteen members appointed according to Rule 23 by the following: Chief Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court, Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Superintendent of the Department of Education, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii, President of the University of Hawai'i, Dean of the William S. Richardson School of Law, Hawaii State Bar Association, Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools, and two members selected by the other appointed members.

The commission began meeting in April 2021 and meets monthly. It also has two committees, one focused on civic education in the schools and one focused more generally on civic engagement in the community. The mission statement adopted by the PACE Commission is: "To create, implement and amplify sustainable programs, resources, and practices that improve place-based, constitutionally informed and culturally sensitive civic education and engagement in Hawai'i schools and communities."

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

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/4/2022 1:23:41 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michael Golojuch Jr	Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Representatives,

The Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i (formerly the LGBT Caucus) Hawai'i's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization fully supports HB 2494.

We hope you all will support this important piece of legislation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Chair and SCC Representative
Stonewall Caucus for the DPH

Statement Before The
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

2:00 PM

Via Videoconference

in consideration of

HB 2494**RELATING TO CIVIC EDUCATION.**

Chair WOODSON, Vice Chair KAPELA, and Members of the House Education Committee

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB 2494, which appropriates funds for the expansion of civic education in the public schools and for one full-time equivalent permanent civic education resource teacher position.

Common Cause Hawaii is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to reforming government and strengthening democracy through voting modernization efforts that increase civic engagement, voter turnout, and voter participation in our democratic processes.

Given Hawaii's traditional low voter registration and low voter turnout rates, people are not generally engaged in the political process. See <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/08/why-does-hawaii-have-such-low-voter-turnout-heres-what-the-data-says/> (retrieved Jan. 29, 2022). Studies have shown that voting is a habit, which develop over repetition and can become strongly ingrained if developed early. See <https://thehill.com/opinion/campaign/456934-how-voting-becomes-a-habit> (retrieved Jan. 29, 2022). Hopefully, HB 2494 will teach our youth the importance of civic engagement and voting to have engaged future leaders, leading to a strong and vibrant democracy. "We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate." Thomas Jefferson.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2494. If you have questions of me, please contact me at sma@commoncause.org.

Very respectfully yours,

Sandy Ma
Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

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MAILING ADDRESS

Bill South
Zahava Zaidoff
P.O. Box 23404
Honolulu
Hawaii 96823

February 5, 2022

TO: Chair Woodson and members of EDN Committee

RE: HB 2494 Relating to Civic Education

Support for hearing on February 8

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support this bill as we support the expansion of civic education in the public schools and for one full-time equivalent permanent civic education resource teacher position. Civic education has been in decline since "No Child Left Behind". It is endangering the health of our democracy.

Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel, President

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com



COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Representative Justin Woodson, Chair

Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Representative Sean Quinlan, Chair

Representative Daniel Holt, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 8, 2022

2:00 PM

HB 2494 - STRONG SUPPORT FOR CIVIC EDUCATION

Aloha Chairs Woodson and Quinlan, Vice Chairs Kapela and Holt and Members of the Committees!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies in Hawai'i for more than two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the more than 4,100 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars or under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety or the corporate vendor on any given day. We are always mindful that 1,113 of Hawai'i's imprisoned people are serving their sentences abroad thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Kanaka Maoli, far, far from their ancestral lands.

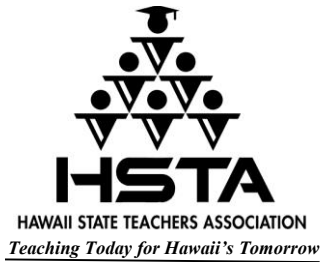
HB 2494 appropriates funds for the expansion of civic education in public schools. YAY! Community Alliance on Prisons is in strong support of this bill.

Certainly, the current the state of the world demands that people understand how our government works and what their responsibility is to protect democracy. Democracy takes work. It demands that we come together as a society to protect the common good.

By teaching civics in our public schools we grow our democracy, we inspire future leaders, and we encourage critical thinking - which has become an endangered species these days. It is vitally important for our youth (and everyone else) to understand what is going on in our government.

This age of disinformation and misinformation must be incredibly confusing to our students, therefore, encouraging critical thinking and inquiry are crucial to democracy.

Democracy demands participation and it can only thrive when the people are engaged and vigilant. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure.



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Osa Tui, Jr.
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Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: HB 2494 - RELATING TO CIVIC EDUCATION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2022

OSA TUI, JR., PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Woodson, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports HB 2494**, relating to civic education. The purpose of this bill is to fund the expansion of civic education in public schools, including professional development and classroom resources related to the Hawaii core standards in social studies. It also appropriates funds for one full-time equivalent permanent civic education resource teacher position.

The Hawaii State Teachers Association stresses the importance of expanding civic education in our public schools to prepare students to participate in the public and political lives of their communities. Civic education helps develop critical thinking skills in our students that are vital to the functioning of a democratic nation, including how to recognize social problems, evaluate possible solutions to problems, separate evidence-based claims from opinions, and to take action.

Hawaii is among the ten states with the lowest voter turnout in the nation. Cultivating social and political engagement among students through civic education is an important strategy available to increase voter turnout and citizen engagement over the long term, but not just for voting, also to know how to become more involved in community issues as they arise. Civic education helps them evaluate what others have tried, what has worked, and make a plan of action for creating change needed to solve problems together.

In 2018 the Hawaii Board of Education adopted College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) standards. These core standards in social studies integrate and encompass the democratic values and need to be supported more. We need to help provide more civic education resources to help engage students in the pursuit of active and informed citizenship to help connect our students to the world through informed instructional experiences that are led by teachers who are committed to active civic participation.

Thus, for the future of our students, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks you to **support** this bill.

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 12:37:14 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Rosemarie Muller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Rosemarie Muller and I live in Keaau, Hawai'i. Civic Education in schools is so important for young people today to be engaged in the democratic process. It can eventually lead to being more aware of community issues. Voting at an early age will become a habit that will be a positive influence in the student's life.

Thank you

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 1:26:35 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Barbara Best	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I wish this bill would pass in every school district in the country, since it's obvious how little people understand how government works, what the Constitution and Bill of Rights say etc.

- Hopefully, HB 2494 will teach our youth the importance of civic engagement and voting to have engaged citizens, voters and future leaders, leading to a strong and vibrant democracy.
-

February 5, 2022

TO: State of Hawai'i House Education Committee

**Testimony for 08 Feb 2022 EDN Hearing re:
HB 2494 RELATING TO CIVIC EDUCATION – I Support With Revisions**

Aloha Esteemed Members of the EDN Committee,

I wholeheartedly support the intent of HB 2494. However, I ask that you consider making some improvements.

It's time for our laws related to education to:

1. Include sustainability provisions;
2. Provide for distance learning;
3. Specifically state measureable outcomes for financial expenditures; and
4. Make all non-confidential documents available to the public online.

As written, HB 2494 does not accomplish these goals. Therefore, I suggest the following revisions. (Strikeout indicates deletion. Underline indicates insertion.)

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$84,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the expansion of civic education in public schools, ~~including professional development~~ through the creation of a K-12, publicly-available, online curriculum and classroom resources related to the Hawaii core standards in social studies that provides a solid education in civic responsibility in the United States and Hawaii.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of education for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to hire one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent civic education resource teacher position responsible for the creation of the K-12, publicly-available, online curriculum content and classroom resources related to the Hawaii core standards in social studies that provides a solid education in civic responsibility in the United States and Hawaii.

SECTION 4. Candidates for the position described in Section 3 must have prior experience as a curriculum developer.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF MY SUGGESTED REVISIONS

If the State develops its own curricula, the State owns it and this is a one-time expense rather than paying publishers' annual license fees for 3rd-party curricula.

If the State owns the curricula, it's easy to modify and customize to the State of Hawaii.

If the curricula is available online and publicly available, everyone is free to use it and LEARN. Since I became involved with the Hawai'i public education system 16 years ago, I have never understood the secrecy issue – why not make ALL non-confidential information available to everyone? I still don't get it.

We should be thinking of ways to move forward in this technological world, and start putting ALL the curricula online.

Plan ahead, and take EVERYONE into consideration. If you develop systems that accommodate the disadvantaged, you accommodated everyone.

I really don't want one more "resource teacher" position created in the DOE to be filled with someone who is not competent to do the job required, or a job that is so nebulous there are no defined, measurable outcomes.

Mahalo for your consideration,



Vanessa Ott

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 5:39:24 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Why is Hawaii always at the bottom of the percent of voters voting in local and federal elections?

What are we doing wrong to consistanly score low on voter enrollement and participation?

Studies have shown that voting is a habit, which develop over repetition and can become strongly ingrained if developed. Hopefully, HB 2494 will teach our youth the importance of civic engagement and voting to have engaged future leaders, leading to a strong and vibrant democracy.

Mahalo,

tlaloc tokuda

Kailua Kona HI 96740

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 7:56:49 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Dyson Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB2494.

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/6/2022 5:37:24 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
David Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Given Hawaii's traditional low voter registration and low voter turnout rates, people are not generally engaged in the political process. Studies have shown that voting is a habit, which develop over repetition and can become strongly ingrained if developed early.

Hopefully, HB 2494 will teach our youth the importance of civic engagement and voting to have engaged future leaders, leading to a strong and vibrant democracy.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this bill.

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/6/2022 4:10:01 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Stacie M Burke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Education

Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair

Rep. Jeanne Kapela, Vice-Chair

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Support for H.B. No. 2494 Relating to Civic Education

Aloha,

I am submitting testimony in strong support of H.B. 2494

A healthy Democracy hinges on civic participation by informed citizens. Hawai'i had the third-lowest voter turnout of all the states for the 2020 general election, despite having the convenience of all mail in voting.

Let's give our young people a robust civic education curriculum to negate the apathy that yields low voter turnout.

Mahalo

Stacie Burke

Aiea, Hawai'i

Testimony to the Thirty-First Legislature, 2022 Regular Session
House Committee on Education
House Committee on Economic Development

By

Colin D. Moore, Ph.D.

Director, Public Policy Center, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

House Bill No. 2494, Relating to Civic Education

Position: STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Woodson, Chair Quinlan, and Committee Members:

I am Colin Moore, Director of the Public Policy Center at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I served as the content lead for the new civics standards that were included in the Hawai'i Core Standards for Social Studies, which were approved for adoption by the Board of Education in October 2018.

I strongly support HB 2494. This bill provides desperately needed resources to the Department of Education to implement these excellent new civics standards. A full-time permanent civic education resource teacher will ensure that appropriate professional development opportunities and resources are available to teachers as they develop new lessons and materials.

Our democracy is sustained through the participation of all citizens in civic life, yet rates of civic engagement have been declining across the nation for years. This decline is particularly alarming here in Hawai'i, a state that once had some of the highest voter turnout rates, but now ranks among the ten worst states in the nation.

We can reverse this trend, but it will require the state to support civic learning in our public schools. Young people must be provided with the civic knowledge and skills to understand the processes of government. They need to learn civic values that will lead to an appreciation for free speech and civil discourse. Finally, they need to develop the confidence to engage in civic behaviors like voting and attending public meetings. The new Hawai'i civics standards provide students with all of these skills, but teachers need extra support to adopt them.

That's why I urge you to support HB 2494. It will provide teachers with the resources and training to help our students learn the skills and gain the confidence to make their own contributions to our democracy.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/6/2022 9:42:28 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jo-Ann M Adams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

After watching the sedition on January 6, 2021, one of my first thoughts was, "We have got to put government back into every high school curriculum."

I would go even further than that. I think that every high school student should be required to pass the exam we require of naturalized citizens.

I ask that this bill be amended to require that every high school student must pass the exam in order to graduate from high school.

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/6/2022 10:48:44 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha nui,

Mahalo ‘oukou for having this item as an option. In these very uncertain times, the need to keep ourselves grounded is at an all time high. Programs as such, provide our keiki and their ‘ohana with opportunities to reground themselves in community. It takes a village to raise our keiki. It is that same village of people that will hold the community together. I love the intention of this bill and look forward to supporting its evolution.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,

Kimeona Kane

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 6:17:02 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
shantee brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

i support bill 2494

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 10:45:34 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Eileen McKee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I support the passage of HB2494.

Mahalo for considering my testimony.

Eileen McKee

Kihei

HB-2494

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 1:33:15 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Troy J.H. Andrade	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha! My name is Troy Andrade and I write in strong support of HB2494. Over the last few years, I have partnered with DOE and their brilliant teachers on several projects. While there is considerable effort currently undertaken by the DOE Social Studies Specialist, what I have learned in these interactions is that there is so much more that can be done to support teachers and students as it relates to civic education and civic engagement. This bill would ensure a great first step in the legislature committing to the importance of an informed and engaged citizenry. The bill will help lay the foundation for resources that teachers across the state are itching for in relation to incorporating civics in (and out) of the classroom. This bill has the potential to help break down silos and open the doors of government to our keiki. Imagine the possibilities if our students (through their teachers) are trained on how to approach and solve some of the "wicked hard" problems facing our community.