



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

**Date:** 03/24/2022

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 309 Via Videoconference

**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Resolution:** HCR 0050 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO RECOGNIZE AND REMEDY STATEWIDE SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION INEQUITIES BY INCREASING AND PRIORITIZING SCHOOL BUS SERVICES FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN FROM LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HCR 50 urging the prioritization of low- to moderate-income families for school bus transportation service.

The Department would need to pursue amendments to applicable Hawaii Administrative Rules to formalize, operationalize, and allow enforcement of this prioritization.

There are financial implications to the Department that will need to be addressed so as not to negatively impact programs that are funded by school bus pass fares such as City and County bus passes for students eligible for assistance under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, family mileage reimbursement, and other operational expenses.

The Department continues to work with our school bus contractors to hire qualified school bus drivers.

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