



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

Date: 03/13/2023

Time: 03:25 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0069, HD1 RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the department of education's resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health program. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 69, HD1. The Resources for Enrichment, Athletics/Academics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program provides critical, developmentally-aligned out-of-school time (OST) opportunities to public middle/intermediate and charter school students at no cost to their families.

Research shows that investing in high-quality OST programs like REACH improves and enhances school-day student outcomes such as attendance and social and emotional development. The REACH program provides middle-level students with opportunities to explore their interests, make positive connections with caring adults, and cultivate a sense of belonging, supports that are critical to the positive development of middle-level students.

Nearly all funding for school-based OST programming in Hawaii comes from federal funds. As REACH is the only state-funded OST program for middle schools in Hawaii, increasing the appropriation will not only signal the State's investment in our students and families but will also allow more schools to center Hawaii's students in the design of

their OST programming. Middle schools can then use this opportunity to create programs that address the unique needs, interests, and assets of their students and communities.

This measure aligns with the Department's high-leverage priority of middle-level education to support student academic growth and social-emotional learning.

The Department respectfully requests the appropriation of \$2,500,000 which was in the first draft of HB 69 to expand its after-school programs provided it does not adversely affect the priorities identified in the Department's Board approved budget.

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

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Committee on Education
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

March 13, 2023

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

We support HB 69 HD1, which appropriates funds for the DOE's REACH Program.

Afterschool programs can provide this structure as well as be a safe place where teens can build confidence. Studies show that afterschool programs can contribute to higher grades and test scores, better attendance records, lower drop-out rates and an increase in positive attitudes and behaviors.¹ After school programs can also have benefits to families including better connection between parents, children and communities, and improved relationships between parents and children.²

Hui for Excellence in Education, or "HE'E," promotes a child-centered and strength-based public education system in which families, communities and schools are valued and empowered to help every student succeed. HE'E works to bring diverse stakeholders together to harness collective energy, share resources, and identify opportunities for progressive action in education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support represents at least a 75% consensus of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

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

² Harris, E. & Wimer, C. (2004, April). *Engaging with families in out-of-school time learning, No. 4*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Family Research Project.



Academy 21
American Civil Liberties Union
Alliance for Place Based Learning
Castle Complex Community Council
Coalition for Children with Special Needs
Education Institute of Hawai'i
*Faith Action for Community Equity
Fresh Leadership LLC
Girl Scouts Hawaii
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
*HawaiiKidsCAN
*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance
*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
*Hawai'i Children's Action Network
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
Hawai'i Scholars for Education and Social Justice
* Hawai'i State PTSA
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
Head Start Collaboration Office
It's All About Kids
*INPEACE
Joint Venture Education Forum
Junior Achievement of Hawaii
Kamehameha Schools

Kanu Hawai'i
Kaua'i Ho'okele Council
Keiki to Career Kaua'i
Kupu A'e
*Leaders for the Next Generation
Learning First
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds
Native Hawaiian Education Council
Our Public School
*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning
*Parents and Children Together
*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i
Special Education Provider Alliance
*Teach for America
The Learning Coalition
US PACOM
University of Hawai'i College of Education
*Youth Service Hawai'i

Voting Members () Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*

Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

1776 University Avenue, WA1-102
Honolulu, HI 96822



Senate Committee on Education
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

March 13, 2023
Conference Room 229

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 Relating to After-School Programs

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and members of the Committee,

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

Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The intermediate years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.

Hawai'i parents report that afterschool programs are a lifeline for working families. According to the America After 3PM report, 81% of Hawai'i parents agree that their afterschool program helps them keep their job or work more hours, and 84% of parents agree that programs provide them peace of mind.

Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance respectfully urges the passage of this bill, so students have the support they need after school. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Paula Adams
Executive Director
Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance
hawaiiafterschool@gmail.com
www.hawaiiafterschoolalliance.org



Food+ Policy Internship 2023

food@purplemaia.org

March 12, 2023

Aloha Chair Kidani and the Senate committee on Education,

I am in **SUPPORT** of **HB69**, relating to after school programs. After-school programs provide students a means to receive additional resources for enrichment, athletics, culture and health as part of their overall educational experiences, and are sometimes a lifeline for working families. After-school programs are essential for intermediate and high school students, and after school activities may also reverse high school drop-out rates and ensure students remain engaged in their education and community. I urge the committee to **SUPPORT HB69**.

Mahalo,
Kahealani Acosta & the Food+Policy Team
#fixourfoodsystem

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2023, the cohort of interns are undergraduate and graduate students from throughout the UH System. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, public health, nutrition, and Hawaiian culture.

HB-69-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 1:04:02 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2023 3:25:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Jensen	Testifying for Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

Hearing date & time: March 13, 2023, 3:35pm:

Hawai'i State Capitol Conference Room 229

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 Relating to After-School Programs

Dear Honorable Committee members,

Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice (HFRJ) supports HB 69 HD1 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to \$2,500,000.

One of HFRJ's programs, Kalihi Leadership Academy, is a youth development pilot program targeting youth living in Kalihi public housing communities. Many in the target population are idle in the after school hours. They have reported that without our program, they would have nowhere to go to engage in edifying activities, and would be unable to talk candidly in a safe environment with caring adults.

Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

HFRJ respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students have needed support after school. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please contact me at: 808 230-6773, lisa@hawaiiifriends.org

Sincerely,

Lisa C. Jensen, MEd.

Director, Kalihi Leadership Academy

HB-69-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2023 1:21:28 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2023 3:25:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christina Simmons	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Committee on Education

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

Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students. The intermediate years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.

The return on investment for Afterschool programming is irrefutable. I would much rather keep kids safe, happy and learning than pay for remediation and fixing the troubles that occur, especially between 2:30pm and 6pm. It's a no brainer! All kids deserve the opportunity to learn, be safe and have fun.

Although there is high demand for afterschool programs, for every youth in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in, with 35,067 youth alone and unsupervised after school. Additional REACH funding will not only expand the offerings currently provided but allow those programs to enhance their current programming to help accelerate students' academic, social, and emotional learning.

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

Sincerely,

Christina Simmons

Kaneohe Resident

HB-69-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2023 5:30:49 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2023 3:25:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Phaedra Robinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

March 13, 2023

Conference Room 229

RE: Support of HB 69 HD1 Relating to After-School Programs

Esteemed Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and Committee,

I Phaedra Robinson on behalf of RAI Hawaii, support HB 69 HD1.

Afterschool programs are essential for middle and intermediate students to combat high school drop-out rates, help students remain engaged in their education and communities, keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills.

Supplemental after school programs whose aim is to teach youth to be creators, inventors and makers by being able to participate in inperson STEAM Makerspaces will help to prepare our students for success throughout their schooling and prepare them for careers. Access to technology increased because of the pandemic, yet our students are not being creators with that technology even though the average hours of screentime have increased each year since the pandemic began. We must start teaching them computer science from preschool so that they may reach advanced levels of computational thinking. These kinds of programs also positively increase SEL, peer and adult engagement and problem solving skills.

RAI Hawatt respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students have the support they need after school. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Phaedra Robinson, PhD, Founder and CEO RAI Hawaii

HB-69-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 2:46:27 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2023 3:25:00 PM

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

Comments:

THIS BILL SHALL BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE FUNDING TO THE HAWAII STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION FOR THE PUROSES OF THIS BILL.

ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS SHALL RECEIVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES.

THE STATE OF HAWAII HAS TWO PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAMS, ONE CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AND ONE CONDUCTED BY AUTHORIZER, THE HAWAII STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SHOOL COMMISSION.

THANK YOU, M KAPUNIAI