

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 01/31/2023

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

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

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the department of education's resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health program.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 0069 and offers comments on this measure.

The Resources for Enrichment, Athletics/Academics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program provides valuable out-of-school time opportunities to middle and intermediate public school students at no cost to their families. For school year 2022-23, 42 public and charter middle and intermediate schools have received funding to implement its REACH program, which has steadily increased since school year 2018-19. This increased interest in out-of-school time programming and support for all 87 middle and intermediate schools far exceeds the current \$500,000 allocation for REACH.

The Department appreciates the appropriation to expand its after-school programs, as this measure aligns with the Department's high-leverage priority of middle-level education to support students' academic growth and social-emotional learning.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 0069.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
EWA MAKAI MIDDLE SCHOOL
91-6291 Kapolei Parkway
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

House Committee on Education
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

January 31, 2023, Conference Room 309

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

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and members of the Committee,

Ewa Makai Middle School is in support of HB 69 to increase funds for the Department of Education's Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program to \$2,500,000. Our school runs an after-school program that tutors and provides enrichment for our students in different career pathways and interests.

After-school programs are essential for middle level schools. The middle level years are important for reversing high school drop-out rates and ensuring students remain engaged in their education and community. After-school programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and provide a space for students to develop their social-emotional skills. These programs give our students a sense of belonging and it provides them with more knowledge and experience in different career areas.

For the past several years, we have utilized the funds from REACH to provide a variety of enrichment and learning opportunities for our students. It has also provided a safe place for our students during after school hours until parents are at home from the workforce. Our teachers get the chance to teach their passions and students get experience in many career options. The students have explored sports, tech, robotics, culinary arts, art, film media and so much more.

Although there is high demand for after-school programs, for every youth in an after-school 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.

Ewa Makai Middle School 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,
Kim Sanders, Principal
Ewa Makai Middle School



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Education
Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

By

Nathan Murata, Dean
College of Education

And

Michael Bruno, Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 69 – RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 69, relating to after-school programs.

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, College of Education supports HB 69 relating to after-school programs for Department of Education students. After-school programs provide students a means to receive additional resources for enrichment, athletics, culture and health as part of their overall educational experiences. After-school programs and activities may also reverse high school drop-out rates and ensure students remain engaged in their education and community.

Thank you for allowing our testimony on HB 69.

Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

1776 University Avenue, WA1-102
Honolulu, HI 96822



House Committee on Education
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

January 31, 2023
Conference Room 309

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

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports 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.

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



300 W. Lanikaula Street
Hilo, HI 96720
808-935-3721

<https://islandofhawaiiymca.org/>

January 28, 2023

House Committee on Education
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

January 31, 2023
Conference Room 309

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

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and members of the Committee,

The Island of Hawaii YMCA 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.

Out of school care is extremely important to us on the Island of Hawaii. Because of the large demographics of our island, parents need to drive more than 1 hour one way from rural communities such as the district of Puna to arrive to work in Hilo. Having quality out of school care allows parents to stay gainfully employed, support their families, put food on the table and provide stability for their children (both foster children and their own biological children.) Out of school programs provide supervision, hot meals and social interactions to children who normally would be left alone unsupervised at home. The Island of Hawaii YMCA seeks donations from private donors and fundraises to supplement families who are not able to afford out of school care.

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 Island of Hawaii YMCA 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,

WENDY BOTELHO-CORTEZ
Chief Executive Officer

Aloha Chair and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists supports 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.

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Alec Marentic, NCSP

HASP President



1523 Kalākaua Avenue
Suite 202
Honolulu, HI 96826
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asahawaii.org

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House Committee on Education
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

January 31, 2023
Conference Room 309

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

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and members of the Committee,

After-School All-Stars Hawaii supports 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.

After-School All-Stars Hawaii works in 12 Title I middle and intermediate school and last year provided over 2,600 students with free daily after-school programs. Although our programs are free for all our participants, they are certainly not free to provide. This year, successful applicants for the REACH grant received \$12,000 to provide after-school programs, this is a rather inadequate amount even to fund a very small portion of an effective after-school program.

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.

After-School All-Schools Hawaii 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,

Paula Fitzell
President/CEO

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Committee on Education
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

January 31, 2023

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee,

We support HB 69, 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

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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.*



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

House Committee on Education
Representative Justin Woodson, Chair
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

January 31, 2023
Conference Room 309

RE: HB69 Relating to After-School Programs-**Support**

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and members of the Committee,

YMCA of Honolulu supports HB69 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.

Recently, a parent shared the following testimonial with us: "Scheduling became impossible between work and getting my daughter after school. Without having any family on island, there are very few options for us. We got accepted into the program and it was more than I ever hoped for. It's more than just a "program" to entertain the kids after school. It's a community. There's so much care, attention and passion for the kids. They do their homework the first hour which is so helpful as a parent. Honestly I don't know what I would do without this program. I'm so grateful and recommend it to anyone!"

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 YMCA of Honolulu 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,
Greg Waibel
President & CEO



Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501c4 nonprofit committed to advocating for children and their families. Our core issues are safety, health, and education.

To: House Committee on Education

Re: **HB 69 - Relating to After-School Programs**

Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 309 & Via Videoconference
January 31, 2023, 2:00 PM

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and Committee Members,

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in **support of HB 69, relating to after-school programs**. This bill would appropriate funds for the department of education's resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health (R.E.A.C.H.) program.

Afterschool programming is incredibly important to working families. Having a nurturing place to go afterschool allows children and youth to stay safe and their parents to work full-time. But there aren't enough afterschool programs to serve all the families needing help. For some families, this means they must choose between shortening work hours (if they can) or leaving their child unsupervised. For middle and intermediate school students, programs like R.E.A.C.H provide structured activities during out of school time.

More funding for the R.E.A.C.H program will help expand comprehensive, high quality afterschool offerings and meet the growing needs of our students and families. For these reasons, **I respectfully request that you pass this bill.**

Thank you,

Nicole Woo
Director of Research and Economic Policy

HB-69

Submitted on: 1/28/2023 9:28:23 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bryan Silver	Kalani High School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Funding needs to be allotted to support after-school programs in all K-12 sectors. After-school programs keep school-age kids engaged and active before parents can return home. This is good for the students, schools and communities.

HB-69

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 8:47:35 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leeann Manuel	Ewa Makai Middle School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

House Committee on Education

Representative Justin Woodson, Chair

Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

January 31, 2023

Conference Room 309

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

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and members of the Committee,

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.

I have worked with the after school program at Ewa Makai for the last six years and find that students need a safe place to learn and succeed. Over the last six years we have grown as an after school program. We have close to a third of the school registered for after school programs. This is where the students are learning how to do new things like knit or crochet. Students also learn how to cook and learn about the different cultures we have. We were able to create a Culture Night and STEM night because of the funding we receive for after school programs. The families enjoy the different activities our staff is able to provide. Activities range from designing craft projects, robotics and coding activities, food creations, and a whole lot more. Besides the programs growing our 'Ohana Nights have grown. It goes to show the students and families enjoy the activities we are able to offer to everyone. With the funding we get from REACH, we are able to do the different activities here at Ewa Makai.

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,

[Leeann Manuel](#)

HB-69

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 8:56:29 AM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am for this funding, as afterschool activities such as music, drama and sports are vital parts of a student's education and will offer great skills to them outside a classroom, and at the very least create a wonderful interest for them in the future. I have benefited from these kinds of programs and want all students to have the same opportunities. Mahalo.

HB-69

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 1:59:30 PM

Testimony for EDN on 1/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christine Oshita	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I know of at least two students, so there must be many more, who had struggled with inappropriate behaviors in classes. They had difficulty making friends. The after school program at our school has changed their entire school experience by providing a safe, positive space for them to learn social and technical skills they can be proud of. The success they are experiencing transfers to the classroom and has helped them be more successful and enjoy school.