

DAVID IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

FOR: SB831 SD1 Relating to Education
DATE: Monday, March 2, 2015
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
COMMITTEE(S): Senate Committee on Ways and Means
ROOM: Conference Room 211
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 831 SD1, “Relating to Education,” which makes various amendments to the Chapter 302D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the state charter school law. These amendments include the following:

- Aligning the requirements for applying for start-up and conversion charter schools;
- Defining an “applicant governing board” for proposed new charter school;
- Amending the deadline for the Board of Education’s (“Board”) annual report on charter schools to the opening day of each regular session of the Legislature, to allow more time for the Commission to publish its own Annual Report using audited annual financial reports from the schools and to address time challenges with processing the latest academic data from the schools;
- Requiring the Department of Education (“Department”) to provide notice to the Board when the Department considers whether to close any Department school so that the Board can consider the disposition of the facility;
- Providing students who are currently enrolled in a charter school that has been notified of the prospect of revocation, or is closing, with an enrollment priority preference at other charter schools;

- Allowing for an enrollment preference, through a weighted lottery, to educationally disadvantaged students; and
- Other housekeeping amendments.

These proposed provisions represent incremental but important improvements to Chapter 302D as the Commission, charter schools, and policymakers continue to strive to strengthen Hawaii's charter school system.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

SB831

Submitted on: 2/28/2015

Testimony for WAM on Mar 2, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov