Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance 841 Bishop Street, Suite 301. Honolulu, HI 96813



April 14, 2016

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair State Capitol Conference Room 221

Re: Support of HCR 137, SD1: REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS IN HAWAII'S PUBLIC MIDDLE AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS. Proposed SD1)

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Committee Members:

The Hawaii Afterschool Alliance strongly supports HCR 137, which seeks to convene a working group to review after-school programs in Hawaii's public middle and intermediate schools.

The Hawaii Afterschool Alliance is a network of individuals and organizations dedicated to supporting and advancing sustainable, quality afterschool and summer learning programs that result in improved academic, social, emotional, and physical outcomes for children and families in Hawaii. The Alliance is working to ensure that all children in Hawaii have access to quality afterschool and summer learning programs.

The Hawaii Afterschool Alliance is developing and promoting statewide quality guidelines through a common system of self-assessment of afterschool programs, building on existing state and national standards; it is supporting quality improvement measures to strengthen existing afterschool programs through coordinated training and technical assistance and collaborative learning; and it is building local and state public and private support for expanding and sustaining high quality afterschool and summer learning opportunities.

The Hawaii Afterschool Alliance is currently working on some of the items listed in the resolution and is the partner organization for the national Afterschool Alliance in Hawaii. For these and other reasons, we encourage the Ways and Means Committee to consider the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance to be the convener and include the Superintendent of Education, or the Superintendent's designee as a member of this working group.

Sincerely, Paula Adams Executive Director Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance (p/f): 808-380-1602 hawaiiafterschool@gmail.com www.hawaiiafterschoolalliance.org To the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

RE HCR 137, SD1 PROPOSED

Relating to establishment of a working group to review afterschool programs in Hawaii's public intermediate schools

BY: Mark E. Zeug, President, Kahoomiki

Position: Support with suggestions

Good afternoon. My name is Mark Zeug, and I am president of Kahoomiki, Hawaii's Council on Physical Activity and Nutrition, which has for the past decade managed an program that works within the A+ program of Hawaii's public elementary schools and also is part of the governing committee of the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance.

We are 100 percent in favor of this effort to further understand the afterschool resources and needs of middle-school children in Hawaii, and applaud the legislature for its diligence in working toward a viable afterschool agenda for these young people.

But we have a question and a suggestion.

The question relates to who should be tasked with convening and overseeing this review. We believe tasking an independent organization with this obligation would provide a more evenly structured platform for arriving at the objectives of this resolution.

We submit that such an organization already exists, namely the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance. HAA was established two years ago with significant input from the Department of Education and several other organizations that are actively involved in afterschool programs. These organizations, along with the DOE and the UH College of Education, continue to actively participate on HAA's governing committee.

We further suggest that in addition to the After-School All-Stars, the legislature consider expanding the positions at the table of this working group to include two or more additional representatives of organizations that are actively engaged in afterschool programming. I'm thinking of organizations like the YMCA, Kamaaina Kids, Boys and Girls Clubs, R.E.A.C.H., Moilili Community Association, Kihei Community Centers, and similar such organizations.

We also believe a representative of the juvenile justice system, in addition to the police, should have a seat at this table.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for this measure. We all know that out-of-school hours are as important to a child's education as those in the classroom. Most of us here probably had the benefit of such programs, and there is a critical need for more of them, especially for the middle-school children. Thank you.

## <u>HCR137</u>

Submitted on: 4/19/2016 Testimony for WAM on Apr 21, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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