



LATE

KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committee on Education

Time: 1:15 p.m.

Date: February 10, 2016

Where: State Capitol Room 229

TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk

Kamehameha Schools

To: Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and Members of the Committee

RE: **SB 2587 Relating to Whole Child Education**

E ka Luna Ho'omalua Kidani, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalua Harimoto a me nā Lālā o nā Kōmike Ho'ona'auao o ka Hale o nā Lunamaka'āinana, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Community Education Division of Kamehameha Schools.

Senate Bill 2587 relating to whole child education would require public schools to allocate a percentage of student hours to instruction in visual arts, music, theatre, dance, Hawaiian and Polynesian studies, Hawaiian language, native Hawaiian culture, native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and physical education. We are writing in **support** of this measure.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is a statewide educational system supported by a trust endowed by Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, whose mission is to improve the capability and well-being of Native Hawaiian learners. Hawaiian learners. We are committed to continuing to engage in dialog around education policies and proposals and strive to contribute in a positive and meaningful way.

‘A‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia. No task is too large when we all work together!

Please advance this measure. Mahalo nui.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Education

LATE

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 10, 2016

S.B. 2587 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO offers the following comments with respect to S.B. 2587, relating to Whole Child Education which requires all public schools to allocate a percentage of student hours to instruction in visual arts, music, theatre, dance, Hawaiian and Polynesian studies, Hawaiian language, native Hawaiian culture, native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and physical education.

The proposed language allocates a percentage of all student hours to whole child education in all public elementary, middle and elementary schools. It also redefines the meaning of "Whole Child Education."

Place-based education, while important and necessary, should incorporate curricula that promote understanding, tolerance, and respect for the diverse cultures and ethnicities in Hawaii and today's world. The term "Whole Child Education" has been used by educators to mean an approach to teaching that addresses "the whole child," in other words the physical, social, emotional, intellectual and cultural needs of each individual child. The value of "Whole Child Education" and its components: (1) cannot and should not be measured in student hours; and (2) should not be limited to elementary, middle and intermediate schools.

Great care should be taken to provide programs, resources and funding that nurtures inquiry and the development of individual interests, strengths, talents and dispositions through the study of the visual arts, performing arts, multi-ethnic cultures, traditions and customary practices, health, physical education and the sciences.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment to S.B. 2587.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director