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February 3, 2015

Senate Committee on Education

RE: SB 328 Public School Use

IN STRONG OPPOSITION

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members,

As President of Rainbow Family 808, a group of straight, LGBT families focused on peace and justice through education, we strongly oppose SB 328 because this bill unfairly burdens the DOE to subsidize the use of Public Schools for the staffing of schools and use of utilities during the time the churches use the school facilities for the benefit of the school.

The cost to the schools have to be paid to settle the bill. In kind donations in lieu of payment for the cost of the services and utilities does damage to the DOE Budget..

This bill violates the Separation of State and Church because it gives unfair advantage to churches at the expense of the DOE and the taxpayers of Hawaii. The taxpayer is already subsidizing churches by exempting them from income taxes and highly reduced Property Taxes.

Department of Education deserves our support not a measure that would further strain tight budgets. Rainbow Family 808 STRONGLY OPPOSES SB 328 in a speedy and just manor.

Mahalo nui loa

Carolyn Martinez Golojuch, MSW - President

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: malasadabooks@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB328 on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 1:21:25 PM

SB328

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for EDU on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlene Deveraturda	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: There is no need for public facilities to aid the religious community when they already receive tax-exempt status, and appear to be well funded:

<http://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2015/02/02/new-hope-oahu-sister-organization-purchases.html> As evidenced by this article, their intent to insert themselves into public schools is clear and should not be allowed. Let's not blur the lines of separation of church and state.

<http://www.thenation.com/article/195105/movement-put-church-every-school-growing>

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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: mochizuki@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB328 on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:34:08 AM

SB328

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for EDU on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marsha Mochizuki	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly urge you to reject SB328. Allowing organizations to provide in-kind services in lieu of rent will prove costly to taxpayers and burden school principals. This bill does not provide for any system of determining whether in-kind services provided will actually be of equal value to the cost of the space, equipment, custodial staff overtime, and utilities. Most principals are not trained to make proper assessment of the value of in-kind services such as painting, landscaping and construction projects. Again, I strongly urge you to reject SB328.

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**GAY LESBIAN
BISEXUAL AND
TRANSGENDER
CAUCUS**



**DEMOCRATIC
PARTY OF
HAWAII**

February 3, 2015

Senate's Committee on Education
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229
Honolulu, HI 96813

Decision Making: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 – 1:15 p.m.

RE: STRONG OPPOSITION for Senate Bill 328 – RELATING TO SCHOOLS

Aloha Chairperson Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and fellow committee members,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition of Senate Bill 328 on behalf of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii's (GLBT Caucus) over 1,000 members and supporters. The GLBT Caucus is Hawaii's oldest and only caucus dedicated to ensuring justice and equality for Hawaii's LGBT community.

Our opposition has many faces but we will focus on just two areas; the first being related to the safety assurances for Hawaii's public school students and the second is with regards to fair labor practices for our union brothers and sisters.

Keiki Safety: Nowhere in this bill are there any safeguards regarding the work that a group may do on a public school facility. Here are just a few of the questions that come to mind, none of which are answered by this bill:

When would this work be done, during school hours? Will the workers be required to trained professionals in the field of work they are and will they be required to be bonded? Who will oversee the work and ensure it is done to code? Will the workers have background checks done to keep sexual predators away? If yes, who will pay for those background checks? Who will check that the materials being used meet all safety codes?

Fair Labor Practices: This bill sounds like it violates the Union Contracts that the State has signed with ALL the public unions. Here are the questions that this bill raises on this issue:

What jobs would the renters be allowed to do in exchange for free rent? Would they be allowed to do custodial duties, coach a sports team, cook school lunches, work in the front office answering phones, grade tests or teaching a class? This could lead to phasing out a job for the time that a group rents the facility or leaving a State worker with no work to do.

There are no fixes that would make this bill right, fair or just, so we ask that you vote Senate Bill 328 down. Sound a message loud and clear our keiki's safety comes first and the State will honor their labor contracts.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.
GLBT Caucus Chair and
Male Rep. to the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: honoluluprideparade@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB328 on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:30:32 PM

SB328

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for EDU on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rob Hatch	Honolulu Pride	Oppose	No

Comments: What skills do principals have that they can judge and value the work done by renters? If you cannot answer that question then how is the DOE supposed to...

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: babyjean@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB328 on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:02:16 PM

SB328

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for EDU on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronnie Perry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Absolutely not! It is not a concern of the State of Hawaii whether or not religious organizations are sufficiently funded to afford to pay the same rate as all other organizations pay to rent school facilities! If this bill should pass, the state will be forced to defend (at great cost to tax payers) challenges as to its constitutionality, and will lose!

Please review the article linked below, and be aware of the ways that churches everywhere are crossing the Secular boundary when allowed to do exactly this in other states. We must protect the wall between religion and government – neither has a place in the other's affairs!

<http://www.thenation.com/article/195105/movement-put-church-every-school-growing>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: theede@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB328 on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:27:34 PM

SB328

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for EDU on Feb 4, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teri Heede	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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