



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

LATE

Date: 02/21/2018

Time: 10:08 AM

Location: 211

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2665 RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

Purpose of Bill: Codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal four, quality education.

Department's Position:

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

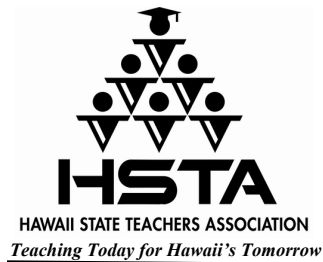
The Department of Education (Department) appreciates this opportunity to testify in support of S.B. No. 2665, which codifies goal four, quality education, of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Goal four articulates a number actions toward ensuring inclusive and equitable education that align with the Joint Department of Education and Board of Education Strategic Plan, including a focus on literacy, career and technical education, teacher recruitment and retention, and expanding the Department's partnerships. In addition, the Department was an active participant in the World Conservation Congress that was held in Hawaii in 2016, and created an online resource bank to provide K-12 educators with a starting point for locating resources relevant to the themes of the Congress such as food and water security, biodiversity, and climate change.

The Department is actively engaged in several initiatives, tied to our Strategic Plan and Implementation Plan, that will further the objectives elucidated in goal four and looks forward to working collaboratively with other State offices toward these ends.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

Corey Rosenlee
President
Justin Hughey
Vice President
Amy Perruso
Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

RE: SB 2665 - RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports SB 2665**, relating to sustainable development goals.

Education is a human right. Other rights—including access to employment opportunities, quality health care, and a clean environment—can only be achieved and protected by an informed citizenry. More than 100 million children are out of school worldwide. Discrimination of marginalized groups, long distances to school, and the absence of inclusive education, per Human Rights Watch, are among the main causes for a lack of learning.

In Hawai'i, 55 percent of public school graduates enrolled in postsecondary institutions for the fall following graduation, according to the Hawai'i State Department of Education's 2016-2017 STRIVE HI report. Yet, only 14 percent of Native Hawaiian students complete college or other postsecondary training, according to Kamehameha Schools.

Only 30 percent of high needs students are meeting proficiency in math, with only 36 percent meeting proficiency in language arts. For English language learners, a mere 38 percent are on track to obtain English language proficiency. Even in the islands, then, we must work to ensure that our most vulnerable children have the opportunity to realize their right to a bright future.

To give every child a chance to reach for their dreams, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

Wednesday, February 21, 2018
10:08 A.M.
Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

LATE



The Oahu Economic Development Board supports SB2665 to adopt the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #4, into state law. This is a significant opportunity to highlight Hawai'i's sustainability leadership, and catalyze new partnerships and resources to support local action. We recommend adopting all 17 SDGs, as reflected in SB2661, and acknowledge discussion on the appropriate placement in the Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

The SDGs provide a global blueprint to balance environmental, social, and economic priorities, which embodies Hawai'i's mālama ethic and systems-based approach to resource management. Senator Kenneth Brown's 1973 speech eloquently conveys a guiding framework to Mālama Hawai'i, calling forth the vision of SDGs. Through SDGs, Hawai'i can partner with other local communities around the world to support place-based action that drives global sustainability outcomes.

The SDGs can support locally and culturally appropriate implementation of sustainability goals through the Aloha+ Challenge (SCR 69), Sustainable Hawai'i, 100 Resilient Cities, Promise to Pae 'Āina, and other efforts. This builds on the recent adoption of the Paris Agreement (Act 32) and the inspiring Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a. Progress on Hawai'i's statewide sustainability commitment is being tracked through the online Aloha+ Challenge Dashboard, highlighting collaboration and action towards the global agenda.

The Oahu Economic Development Board priorities include facilitating progress on such infrastructure and planning issues that involve land, water and permitting in order to move the state towards energy independence and food independence. Our priorities also include participating with other organizations in workforce development planning to ensure that Hawai'i residents have the skills necessary to compete in a global economy. These priorities align with the SDG #4, Quality Education. The SDGs intersect with key cross-cutting issues in Hawai'i, and acknowledge that none of these can be achieved without consideration for the others.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Pono Shim
President and CEO
Oahu Economic Development Board



Dillingham Transportation Building
735 Bishop Street, Suite 424, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • 808-521-3611
Fax: 808-536-2281 • www.oedb.biz



735 Bishop Street, Suite 424
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
www.hawaiiingreengrowth.org

Hawai'i Green Growth is a statewide public-private partnership that catalyzes action across government, private sector and civil society to achieve Hawai'i's sustainability and climate goals, and serve as a model for integrated green growth

Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth
In Support of SB2665 Relating to Sustainable Development Goals
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
21 February 2018, 10:08am, Room 211

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

As a statewide partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) **strongly supports SB2665** to adopt the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into state law. We recognize the role of education in building a more sustainable future, as highlighted through SDG4. Even further, HGG recommends adopting the entire global framework with all 17 SDGs, as reflected in **SB2661**. HGG acknowledges discussions underway to determine the appropriate placement in HRS, but supports the overarching vision to holistically address 21st century challenges that cut across environmental, social, and economic priorities.

We appreciate the Senate's leadership on the 2018 Majority Program on UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the support for Hawai'i sustainability initiatives over the past several decades. Our partnership believes that the SDGs can help advance local efforts to address key challenges in Hawai'i across housing, climate change, energy, environmental protection, health, education and economic development by acknowledging that none of these can be addressed without consideration for the others. We cannot meet our climate goals without achieving sustainable development outcomes and vice versa. Senator Kenneth Brown's 1973 Mālama Hawai'i speech proposed that every action – economic, social and political - be guided by *mālama*. The 17 SDGs embody Hawai'i's *mālama* 'āina approach to resource management, and counsels the necessity of maintaining a balance between all aspects of our environment, society, and economy. In many ways Senator Brown foretold the eventual arrival of the SDG framework.

Hawai'i launched the *Aloha+ Challenge: He Nohona 'Ae'ōia* one year prior to the formal adoption of the SDGs by over 190 countries. The *Aloha+ Challenge* is led by the State Legislature (Senate Concurrent Resolution 69), Governor, four County Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and private sector and civil society partners. Building on Hawai'i's history of systems thinking and many community initiatives, this commitment identifies statewide sustainability goals across energy, food, natural resources, waste, smart sustainable communities and climate, green education and workforce. Hawai'i's *Aloha+ Challenge* is recognized as a place-based model to support locally and culturally appropriate implementation of the SDGs. At the same time, the global SDG framework supports the implementation of local models like the *Aloha+ Challenge*, Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative, 100 Resilient Cities, Promise to Pae 'Āina, and other efforts, and can help attract new resources to drive implementation. It also builds on Hawai'i's recent adoption of the Paris Agreement (Act 32) and the inspiring Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a. Enacting SDGs into state law is significant for Hawai'i locally, nationally and internationally.

Above all, the partnership recognizes that Hawai'i's long-term security in the face of climate change and other challenges is now linked to the success of this global agenda. Because of the scale of the threat, this is no longer something Hawai'i can do alone. Indeed, for many in the international community, Hawai'i holds the answer to finding the balance based on the wisdom of our host culture and fundamental island values, as embodied in Senator Kenneth Brown's speech delivered 45 years ago. It is our kuleana, both a responsibility and privilege, to partner with communities across the globe to build a more sustainable future for Hawai'i and island earth.

Thank you for your visionary leadership and for the opportunity to submit testimony.