

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

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To: House Committee on Finance

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: February 21, 2020, 11:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Re: Testimony on H.B. No. 2697, H.D. 1
Relating to Education

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill, which would create a No Time to Lose Commission. The Office of Information Practices (OIP) takes no position on the substance of this bill, but has comments and a recommendation regarding the bill's proposed exemption from the Sunshine Law, part I of chapter 92.

This bill (in proposed section 302A-__(d)) would completely exempt the No Time to Lose Commission from the Sunshine Law, although it would require it to post some form of minutes with no set requirement as to their level of detail or when they must be posted. It is not obvious why the Commission would need a complete exemption from the Sunshine Law to discuss how the State can effectively work toward the educational goals set out by this measure, as the issues it is required to consider appear to be focused at the system-wide policy level rather than issues requiring consideration of individually identifiable student information. Further, OIP notes that the State's public education system is a topic of high public interest, and the Commission as proposed will have authority to consider a wide range of educational issues from preschool availability to high school curriculum.

The Commission as proposed also would be an ongoing board, as it is required to report on its work annually and this proposal includes no planned end date for it.

It is therefore very likely that members of the public will be interested in weighing in on the issues under consideration by the Commission. But even though the Department of Education would be required to administratively support the Commission with “the posting of public notices [and] preparing agendas and minutes,” the Commission as proposed would not be required to actually post any public notices or agendas, or for that matter to allow the public to attend meetings or provide testimony. The Commission’s only obligation to the public would be to post minutes – which might not include the level of detail set for Sunshine Law minutes – at some unspecified time after a meeting has taken place.

In some cases where a proposed working group includes many government officials and employees who in the course of their usual jobs need to speak to each other about the same topic under consideration by the working group, OIP has proposed creating a permitted interaction allowing less than a quorum of members to talk with one another about those issues as needed for their usual jobs. In this case, though, the proposed Commission does not appear likely to need such a permitted interaction given its varied membership and the range of issues within its authority.

Thus, OIP would recommend that this Committee simply delete the Sunshine Law exemption at bill page 6 lines 1 through 4.

Thank you for considering our comments and recommendation.



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

Date: 02/21/2020
Time: 11:00 AM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: HB 2697, HD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a no time to lose commission to examine how the State's public schools can be internationally competitive. Appropriates funds. Takes effect on 7/1/2050. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department appreciates the purpose for establishing a No Time to Lose Commission in order to examine how the State's public schools can be internationally competitive and respectfully provides comments on HB2697 HD1.

The Department's mission to provide equitable access to high-quality public education requires innovation, leadership, and support from those within the system. It demands the collaboration of our teachers, administrators, support staff, and students along with the participation of Hawai'i's business community, unions, network of stakeholders and leaders, and parents.

It is our hope that the Commission's work will align with the Department's core mission of providing a quality public education for all students, while reflecting a strong conviction that all students can achieve and be competitive at the highest levels on a global stage. A focused and coherent curriculum and instructional systems are critical in enabling this type of achievement. The Department is committed to providing these foundational pieces, while working to better attract and retain the high-quality teachers that will help foster students' engagement and development.

Finally, the Department encourages the Commission to collaborate with principals and complex area superintendents as it conducts its work. Ensuring continued autonomy and flexibility in the development of learning environments and school schedules is imperative in meeting the needs of our unique and diverse student populations.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. 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.



STATE OF HAWAII
Executive Office on Early Learning
2759 South King Street
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

February 20, 2020

TO: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: **Measure:** H.B. No. 2697, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION
Hearing Date: February 21, 2020
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Location: Room 308

Bill Description: Establishes a no time to lose commission to examine how the State's public schools can be internationally competitive. Appropriates funds. Takes effect on 7/1/2050.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: Support

Good morning. I am Lauren Moriguchi, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL is in support of H.B. 2697, H.D. 1, as it relates to early learning.

We greatly appreciate the Legislature for its support of EOEL's work to increase access to high-quality early learning, and appreciate the inclusion of the chairperson of the Early Learning Board as a member of the Commission.

EOEL is statutorily responsible for the development of the State's early childhood system that shall ensure a spectrum of high-quality development and learning opportunities for children throughout the state, from prenatal care until the time they enter kindergarten, with priority given to underserved or at-risk children.

Thank you for your consideration, and for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

TO: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Robert G. Peters, Chair
Early Learning Board

SUBJECT: **Measure:** H.B. No. 2697, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION
Hearing Date: February 21, 2020
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Location: Room 308

Bill Description: Establishes a no time to lose commission to examine how the State's public schools can be internationally competitive. Appropriates funds. Takes effect on 7/1/2050.

EARLY LEARNING BOARD'S POSITION: Comments

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments on behalf of the Early Learning Board (ELB) related to H.B. No. 2697, H.D. 1. I am Robert G. Peters, Chair of the ELB.

Through Act 202, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, ELB transitioned from an advisory to a governing board for the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) and is charged with formulating statewide policy relating to early learning. We are composed of members from across the early childhood field, in both the public and private sectors.

ELB's mission is to support children's academic and lifelong well-being by directing and supporting the EOEL for an effective, coordinated, high-quality early learning system from prenatal to kindergarten entry. We support efforts that promote the development of this system for our keiki and families.

The Board has not yet taken an official position on H.B. No. 2697, H.D. 1 as it has not yet been able to review this bill in depth and will be discussing it at its next scheduled meeting.

The inclusion of the Chair of the Early Learning Board or his/her designee to serve on the commission is appreciated, particularly since one of its goals is the access to quality early learning opportunities for all three- and four-year olds.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



JOHN S.S. KIM
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: HB 2697 HD1 Relating to Education
DATE: February 21, 2020
TIME: 11:00 A.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Finance
ROOM: Conference Room 308
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission ("Commission") appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony providing **SUPPORT of HB 2697 HD1** which establishes a No Time to Lose Commission to examine how public schools can be internationally competitive.

The Commission supports the amendments provided by the Committee on Lower and Higher Education which added the chairperson of the Commission, or Commission's designee, to the No Time to Lose Commission. The educational goals identified in the measure are important to and applicable to charter schools; the No Time to Lose Commission would undoubtedly benefit hearing the charter school perspective.

The Commission looks forward to collaborating with the committee, other interested stakeholders, and public charter schools in moving this legislation forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



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

Corey Rosenlee
President

Osa Tui Jr.
Vice President

Logan Okita
Secretary-Treasurer

Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

RE: HB 2697, HD1 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

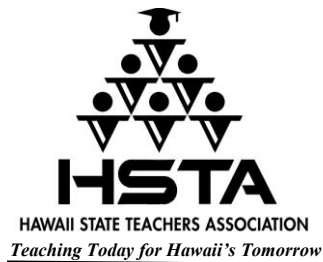
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2020

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports HB 2697, HD1**, relating to education. This bill would establish a no time to lose commission to examine how the State's public schools can be internationally competitive. Appropriates funds.

The No Time to Lose study group, composed of members of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), reports many amazing goals that we as a state can aspire to. One that HSTA thinks is especially important is the study's findings that in high-achieving countries they have a highly professional teaching force that is well-prepared, well-compensated and well-supported throughout their careers. **For example, during the first year of this induction, beginning teachers typically have a greatly reduced workload.** Teachers must complete the induction before they receive what we would call "tenure." High-performing countries create a variety of roles for teachers in the schools so they can use their expertise to improve teaching and learning and, at the same time, offer an exciting career in education. These may include leadership roles that offer experienced teachers incentives to remain in the profession, hone and receive rewards for their unique skills, and better support students and colleagues. **While we do provide support to our new teachers, unfortunately they are not given less of a workload, and many teachers who mentor, also are given this task on top of their existing workload. Although this is changing at some schools and in some complexes, it would be beneficial for this commission to look at these factors as well, especially in comparison with what high-achieving nations do.**



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According to the No Time to Lose study, page 14, in some of these countries, 30 percent to 35 percent of a teacher's time is spent teaching students, while the rest is spent on activities such as working in teams with other teachers to develop and improve lessons, observing and critiquing classes, and working with struggling students. It needs to be noted here that this is not extra time outside of their school day, but within their normal working hours. When not working directly with students, teachers are rewriting curriculum and assessments to meet the needs of their students and to meet high student performance expectations. Teachers also counsel and train each other, constantly observing, evaluating and improving their practices. Because they are trained to be experts at their craft, teachers push themselves, their colleagues and their students to be the best in the world. **Our teachers do many of these things, however, they do these tasks outside of their workday, and are not given enough time within their workday to work on these tasks, thus this extra work, that they are so inspired to do, unfortunately contributes to teacher burn out, as they are doing too much, with too little time given to do it.**

Also on page 14 of this study it states that "In high-performing countries, teachers are also compensated more generously than American teachers, typically earning pay similar to that of senior civil servants and professionals such as engineers and accountants. They are expected to be the best in the world and are compensated accordingly". **One member from the study group, State Representative Mary Stuart Gile from New Hampshire, said it best, "In several of the countries studied, teaching is regarded as an honorable and respected profession, comparable to medicine and law, ...". Paying our teachers a competitive salary is an investment in our future.**

We appreciate these areas have been addressed in this bill and that a representative of bargain unit 5 will be on this commission. We look forward to working on accomplishing the goals identified in the No Time To Lose Report.

To provide all of Hawai'i's children with access to a quality education, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

House Committee on Finance

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Date: February 21, 2020

Where: State Capitol Room 308

TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk
Kamehameha Schools

RE: **HB 2697, HD1, Relating to Education**

E ka Luna Ho'omaluku, ka Hope Luna Ho'omaluku Cullen, a me nā Lālā o ke Kōmike Waiwai o ka Hale o nā Lunamaka'āinana, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk, the Senior Policy Analyst for Kamehameha Schools.

Kamehameha Schools is in **support of the intent** of HB 2697, HD1, which establishes a No Time To Lose commission to examine how the State's public schools can be internationally competitive and appropriate funds.

We commend the creativity and determination of the legislature in advancing Hawai'i's public education system forward, empowering all students to be local and global leaders. Furthermore, we recognize that our public schools are already internationally excellent in many ways and understand that continual improvement is always the goal. In recognition of this excellence, we encourage the state to continue to look to Native Hawaiian education, Hawaiian Culture-Based Education, and indigenous models of education to guide us forward. Let's trust in ourselves, both historically and presently, and maintain confidence in indigenous 'ike (knowledge), which will lead to international successes.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an educational organization striving to restore our people through education and advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership.

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

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Committee on Finance
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

February 21, 2020

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members,

This testimony is submitted **supporting the intent of 2697 HD1, with comments.**

HE'E Coalition supports the intent of HB2679 HD1, which establishes a no time to lose commission to examine how the State's public schools can be internationally competitive.

As the preamble of the bill states, the United States' public schools are falling further behind when measured by international assessments, and that this continued trend will affect our competitiveness globally. HE'E believes it is worth exploring some of the best practices of successful international education systems. However, we would encourage that this commission work collaboratively with the Board of Education and the Department of Education to integrate the commission's findings with the overall strategic vision of the state system. We also suggest that there be a community representative as part of the commission.

Hui for Excellence in Education, or "HE'E," promotes a child-centered and strength-based public education system in which families, communities and schools are valued and empowered to help every student succeed. HE'E works to bring diverse stakeholders together to harness collective energy, share resources, and identify opportunities for progressive action in education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support represents a 75% consensus or more of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director



Academy 21
After-School All-Stars Hawai'i
Alliance for Place Based Learning
*Castle Complex Community Council
*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS
Coalition for Children with Special Needs
Education Institute of Hawai'i
*Faith Action for Community Equity
Fresh Leadership LLC
Girl Scouts Hawaii
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
*HawaiiKidsCAN
*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance
*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
*Hawai'i Charter School Network
*Hawai'i Children's Action Network
Hawai'i Education Association
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
* Hawai'i State PTSA
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
Head Start Collaboration Office
It's All About Kids
*INPEACE
Joint Venture Education Forum
Junior Achievement of Hawaii

Kamehameha Schools
Kanu Hawai'i
*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council
Keiki to Career Kaua'i
Kupu A'e
*Leaders for the Next Generation
Learning First
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds
Native Hawaiian Education Council
Our Public School
*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning
*Parents and Children Together
*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i
Punahou School PUEO Program
*Teach for America
The Learning Coalition
US PACOM
University of Hawai'i College of Education
YMCA of Honolulu

Voting Members () Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*



david.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org
hawaiikidscan.org

David Miyashiro
Executive Director

February 21, 2020

Committee on Finance
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee,

HawaiiKidsCAN supports HB 2697 HD1, which establishes a no time to lose commission to examine how the State's public schools can be internationally competitive by examining common elements found in high performing education systems.

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a local nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that Hawaii has an excellent and equitable education system that reflects the true voices of our communities and, in turn, has a transformational impact on our children and our state. We strongly believe that all students should have access to excellent educational opportunities, regardless of family income levels and circumstances.

We are deeply concerned by the stagnating progress of our local schools when it comes to foundational academic skills. In 2018-2019 school year data reported to the Hawaii Board of Education, only 54% of kids in Hawaii public schools were proficient in language arts, 43% in math, and 44% in science, while the achievement/opportunity gap between high-need and non-high-need students is 34% in language arts and 29% in math. Given today's data, it seems increasingly likely our system won't reach the goal it set to raise student learning by 2020 to 61% in language arts, 54% in math, and 64% in science, while closing the achievement/opportunity gap to 25% in language arts and 22% in math. Similarly, HawaiiKidsCAN's State of Computer Science Education in Hawaii 2018 report found that many students are missing out on critical learning experiences that better prepare them for the future of work, as just 14 public high schools even offered Advanced Placement Computer Science courses, and only 32 percent of students taking these exams were female and only 4 percent—just 12 students statewide—identified as Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.

Along with social-emotional growth on the Nā Hopena A'ō (“HĀ”) framework, foundational academic skills are essential components of an education that



prepares students for success in citizenship, college, and career. Even if we assume that the numbers look worse because some students struggle or are bored with the standardized test format, a 2-5% difference in the overall data would still indicate half of our kids aren't where they should be. In human terms, today's data indicate kids are leaving our schools without the academic background to fill out a job application, take higher level math and science courses to enter competitive and lucrative STEM fields or solve our climate crisis, or read and understand increasingly complex and quickly evolving political news coverage. The challenges facing our state and world are too great to not fully harness the potential of all of our kids.

Given that the performance of our schools is not preparing our students or state to compete in the global economy, we believe that a No Time to Lose commission is an important step forward in ensuring real urgency and results for all students.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

David Miyashiro
Founding Executive Director
HawaiiKidsCAN