



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

Date: 03/17/2021

Time: 03:20 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

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

Title of Resolution: SCR 0081 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INCLUDE THE TEACHING OF FINANCIAL LITERACY IN THE EXISTING PERSONAL TRANSITION PLAN COURSE REQUIREMENT FOR EACH STUDENT.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SCR 0081 and provides comments.

The Department believes that access to age-appropriate financial literacy and financial products will empower students to better manage their money as adults. To enable schools to deliver financial literacy education, the Department collaborates with experts in the field to provide extensive resources and design student financial literacy program models that best meet the needs of our students. These resources and programs are highlighted on the Department's website at:

<https://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/StudentLearning/FinLit/Pages/default.aspx>.

The Department also offers Economics and Career and Technical Education Business elective courses that embed financial literacy concepts. Recently, the Department added a Financial Literacy elective course to its course offering. Students who successfully complete this course will earn 0.5 credit towards their six-credit general elective requirement for graduation.

The Personal Transition Plan (PTP) is a 0.5 credit requirement for graduation. To complete the PTP, students must explore and identify educational and career options of interest and develop and implement a plan to achieve their personal, educational, and career goals. Each school has the flexibility to design its PTP curriculum within the Department's guidelines aligned to the Career Technical Education Model benchmarks. Schools may choose to deliver their PTP curriculum through various modes which include, but are not limited to, course work, advisory,

counseling, Advanced Guidance class, and web-based interactive guidance/career programs.

Due to the the different financial literacy options available at schools and to ensure every student receives financial literacy education which best fits their interests, the Department respectfully suggests that schools will have the latitude to determine the financial literacy program based on each school's stakeholder input on its personal/transition plan scope and sequence or provide financial literacy systemically in their school program.

Thank you for allowing us to provide testimony on SCR 0081.

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.



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Testimony to the Senate Committee on Education
March 17, 2021, 3:20 PM
Hawaii State Capitol, Via Videoconference

LATE

In Support of SCR 81, Financial Literacy for Department of Education

To: The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair
Members of the Committee

My name is Stefanie Sakamoto, and I am testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Credit Union League, the local trade association for 51 Hawaii credit unions, representing over 800,000 credit union members across the state. We offer the following testimony in support of SCR 81.

This resolution would urge the Hawaii State Department of Education to include the teaching of financial literacy in the existing personal transition plan course requirement for each student.

Establishing a financial literacy requirement in Hawaii's educational system would help children learn about saving money and healthy finances at an early age, giving them a jump-start in taking care of their financial well-being for the future. Hawaii's credit unions have long advocated for financial literacy and wellness, sponsoring many educational activities for children, from "Kids Savings" projects to assisting local schools in starting their own student-run credit unions. Teaching children about the importance of saving money and understanding finances from a young age has proven extremely successful in promoting financial security in later years.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this resolution.

SCR-81

Submitted on: 3/16/2021 2:23:04 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/17/2021 3:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Azuma Chrupalyk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Public education system of Hawai'i needs to adopt a local model of education, complete with the instruction of basic life skills to empower students to help their families make wise budgeting choices that will serve to reduce poverty and at-risk situations in the home.