

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 2000 HD1 SD1 Relating to Education
DATE: April 7, 2022 10:20 AM
COMMITTEE: Committee on Ways & Means
ROOM: Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committees:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT on HB 2000 HD1 SD1** which appropriates funds to the school facilities authority for the constructions of preschool facilities.

The Commission strongly supports this measure and hopes that public charter schools will be included in the construction of preschool facilities as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



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

April 5, 2022

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Algaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Coleen Momohara, Interim Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: **Measure:** H.B. No. 2000 H.D. 1 S.D. 1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION
Hearing Date: Thursday, April 7, 2022
Time: 10:20 am
Location: Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

Bill Description: Appropriates funds to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1.)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: Supports

Aloha. I am Coleen Momohara, Interim Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL supports this bill, which would appropriate funds to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities, and defers to the Authority.

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.

EOEL implements the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program in partnership with the Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE). In addition, pursuant to Act 046, SLH 2020, EOEL is responsible for expanding access to early learning programs for all 3- and 4-year-olds. As the School Facilities Authority develops plans to construct new school facilities, EOEL looks forward to collaborating with the Authority and HIDOE as it pertains to constructing preschool facilities and classrooms. We defer to the authority relating to the provisions in this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2000, H.D. 1, S.D. 1

April 7, 2022
10:20 a.m.
Room 211 and Videoconference

RELATING TO EDUCATION

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

House Bill No. 2000, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 23 for the construction of preschool facilities which shall be expended by the School Facilities Authority.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

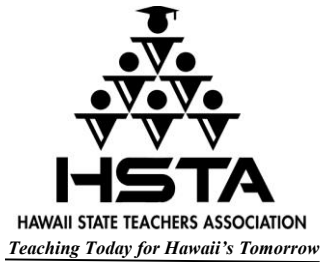
- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



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

Osa Tui, Jr.
President

Logan Okita.
Vice President

Lisa Morrison
Secretary-Treasurer

Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

RE: HB 2000 HD1, SD1 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2022

OSA TUI, JR., PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports HB 2000 HD1 SD1**, relating to education.

This bill will appropriate a yet unspecified amount to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities.

We know well the importance of early learning and that it begins in preschool. High quality early education represents one of the best investments we can make for our collective future, especially that of our young keiki. **To facilitate the demand for public preschools in Hawaii we believe it is important to aim for a preschool on every elementary school campus across the state. That effort can start with this bill.**

Building preschool facilities on already existing and operating elementary school campuses will help in terms of time and money as both the land and infrastructure are readily available for construction of preschools. What's more, once the preschools are built and operating, it could provide convenience for families with multiple young children, as well as the potential to share resources and staff across the campus.

We need to expand public preschool. Now is the time to move quickly ahead. Families across Hawaii cannot wait any longer for early learning and preschool options for their keiki.

To provide early learning opportunities all across Hawai'i, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support this bill.**



Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

April 7, 2022

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

We support HB 2000 HD1 SD1, which appropriates moneys to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities.

To attain the goal of Act 46, which is to provide access to quality early learning seats for all 3- and 4-year-olds in the State of Hawai'i, expansion of physical early learning facilities is necessary. We agree that the School Facilities Agency is the entity that could build or refurbish facilities appropriate for early learning most expediently. We would, however, like to understand the process of how the facilities expansion will occur. We look forward to more discussion and details regarding this bill.

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
American Civil Liberties Union
Alliance for Place Based Learning
*Castle Complex Community Council
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 Children's Action Network
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
Hawai'i Scholars for Education and Social Justice
* Hawai'i State PTSA
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
*Hawai'i Youth Service
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
Special Education Provider Alliance
*Teach for America
The Learning Coalition
US PACOM
University of Hawai'i College of Education

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

HAWAI'I EXECUTIVE collaborative

April 6, 2022

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony in Support of HB2000 HD1 SD1, Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to express Hawai'i Executive Collaborative's (HEC) support of HB2000, relating to education. This bill appropriates funds to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities.

In 2019, HEC had the opportunity of supporting the legislative package of bills that included a commitment to create early learning access for all 3- and 4- year old students by the year 2032. While the pandemic did shift priorities, HEC remains committed to the overarching goal and we believe that HB2000 is a solid step in the right direction.

Early learning experiences are vital to establish a strong foundation for keiki as part of a lifetime of learning. Investing in new preschool facilities and classrooms is not only the first step in expanding access for 3- and 4-year-old students, but also supporting Hawai'i's workforce and economy.

Working families, local businesses, and our economy rely on the availability of affordable, quality early learning and childcare. We know classroom space and costs continue to be significant hurdles in expanding access to early education. In fact, educators have identified the lack of space or appropriate facilities as the most common barrier to increasing the number of seats in their classrooms.¹

These issues mean families are competing for openings in preschools, keiki are stuck on waiting lists, and working parents are struggling to find childcare and to afford the cost of early education.

We respectfully ask for your support to ensure that every keiki in Hawai'i has access to quality early learning by funding HB2000 appropriately. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,



Lynelle Marble
Executive Director
Hawai'i Executive Collaborative

¹ DeBaryshe, B. D., Stern, I., Bellasario, C., Zysman, D., & Bird, O. Early childhood programs in Hawai'i. (2017). Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Center on the Family



HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

TO: COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

FROM: Micah A. Kāne, Chief Executive Officer & President – Hawai'i Community Foundation

RE: Testimony in Support of HB2000, Relating to Education.
Hearing: Thursday, April 7, 2022, 10:20 a.m.

The Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) strongly supports HB2000, as it appropriates funds to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities. In connection with a variety of partnerships we have in support of early care and early learning, we know the value of access to preschool.

We also know that the data shows that there is a lack of supply of preschool seats to meet the needs of the community. In Hawaii, 54% (or 20,000) of 3- and 4-year olds are not in child care, preschool or kindergarten, which is lower than the national average. This appropriation is a critical step toward making good on Hawaii's commitment to accessible, affordable and quality earlycare and learning for all families.

At HCF, we believe that the wellbeing and development of children under age five is a core component to strengthening Hawai'i's communities. HB2000 is an important step towards serving that community need.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB2000.



Date: April 6, 2022

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

From: Early Childhood Action Strategy

Re: **Support for HB2000 HD1 SD1, Relating to Education**

Early Childhood Action Strategy (ECAS) is a statewide cross-sector collaborative designed to improve the system of care for Hawai'i's youngest children and their families. ECAS partners work to align priorities for children prenatal to age eight, streamline services, maximize resources, and improve programs to support our youngest keiki.

ECAS supports passage of HB2000 HD1 SD1, which would appropriate funds to the to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities.

The enactment of Act 46 (2020) was a pivotal commitment by the State to providing access to quality early learning seats for all 3- and 4-year-olds in Hawaii. Availability of space and costs for facilities, however, are critical barriers to increasing the number and capacity of early learning programs in the state. Appropriation of funding for development and construction of facilities would be instrumental to moving forward with the expansion of access intended by Act 46 and critically needed for our keiki.

To expand the scope of early learning programs that might benefit from the development of new facilities, ECAS does respectfully request an amendment to the bill to replace the reference to "preschool" facilities with the more inclusive term "early care and learning" facilities. This change would more appropriately reflect the range of program-types providing services to preschool-age children and could facilitate broader expansion of preschool services.

SECTION 1. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$_____ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the construction of ~~preschool~~ **early care and learning** facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony **in support of HB2000 HD1 SD1**.



Hawaii
Children's Action Network Speaks!
Building a unified voice for Hawaii's children

To: Senator Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: **HB 2000 HD1 SD1, relating to education**
10:20 AM, April 7, 2022

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and committee members,

On behalf of HCAN Speaks!, thank you for the opportunity to **testify in support of House bill 2000 HD1 SD1**, relating to education.

We support the intention of HB 2000. Facilities for early care and learning programs are desperately needed. However, details, like the process of how locations for the construction of preschool facilities would occur and if construction includes renovations of an existing facility or creating a new facility, are unclear. We hope this additional information becomes available.

I also request the measure be amended for more inclusive language that matches the context of preschool in Hawai'i.

SECTION 1. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ _____ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the construction of ~~preschool facilities.~~ **Early care and learning programs**

HCAN Speaks! respectfully requests the Committee to amend and support this measure.

Thank you,

Kathleen Algire
Director, Early Learning and Health Policy



Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

April 7, 2022

10:20 A.M.

**Conference Room 211
& Videoconference**

RE: Relating to Education – House Bill 2000, HD1 SD1

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

My name is Gary Kai and I am the Executive Director of the Hawaii Business Roundtable. We support House Bill 2000 HD1 SD1 which appropriates funds to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities. We believe in providing high-quality early childhood education to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for their children. Early childhood education will help to insure success in school so that children will graduate from high school and will be prepared for their future in college or their future career.

Funding for facilities for our preschools is an important step in achieving the goals of Act 46 relating to Early Learning. The members of the Hawaii Business Roundtable employ thousands of graduates of Hawaii's public school system, and helping children, beginning at an early age, is the key to making them successful citizens in the workplace and in the community. Our ability to compete in a global economy starts with a workforce that has been provided the educational tools to do so and it all begins at a very early age.

Also, as business people, our members understand the high return on investing in children under the age of five which has been well documented nationally and locally. We believe that investing in these facilities and our children will have great long-term benefits for the children and our community as a whole.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify and we look forward to joining your efforts to improve the lives of our children.

Gary K. Kai, Executive Director
Hawaii Business Roundtable



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF HAWAII**



Kamehameha Schools®

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Time: 10:20 a.m.
Date: April 7, 2022
Where: Conference Room 211

RE: HB 2000, HD1, SD1, Relating to Education

Aloha e ka Luna Ho‘omaluku Dela Cruz, ka Hope Luna Ho‘omaluku Keith-Agaran, a me nā lālā o ke Kōmike o nā Loa‘a a me nā Ho‘olilo o ka ‘Aha Kenekoa.

We, the listed organizations, **support** HB 2000, HD1, SD1, which appropriates funds to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities. Our organizations provide direct-delivery education and related support services and we believe that every keiki in Hawai‘i should have access to a quality pre-K education in either official language pathways.

We recognize that early learning supports positive outcomes in academics, promotes emotional well-being, and provides our children a strong foundation for a lifetime of success. Early learning equips children with social competence and cognitive skills,¹ improves learners’ abilities in language and math,² and increases the likelihood of high school and college graduation.³ We also recognize that early learning supports a thriving local economy and community where parents and guardians can provide financially for their families and contribute to society in other ways.

Unfortunately, only one in four children in Hawai‘i attend early learning programs. In 2020, a report found that there were 25,247 seats in child care facilities regulated by the Hawai‘i Department of Human Services, serving 108,340 children ages five or younger.⁴ Therefore, even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the regulated segment of the child care market in Hawai‘i only had the capacity to serve less than a quarter (23.3%) of young children (PDG Needs Assessment. 2020: 52).

While Act 46 (2020) set a goal to provide access to early learning for all unserved three- and four-year-old keiki across Hawai‘i, much more collective work must be done to realize this goal. The unavailability of facilities is one of the greatest barriers to expanding pre-K access. For this reason, we urge the

¹ National Scientific Council on the Developing Child. “The Science of Early Childhood Development.” (2007): 4-8.

² Vivian C. Wong, Thomas D. Cook, W. Steven Barnett, and Kwanghee Jung. “An effectiveness-based evaluation of five state pre-kindergarten programs.” *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 27, No. 1 (2008): 122-154.

³ Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy. “Abecedarian Project.” <http://evidencebasedprograms.org>.

⁴ <http://earlylearning.hawaii.gov/resources/hawaii-state-early-childhood-comprehensive-needs-assessment-reports/> [<https://hawaiiactionstrategy.org/child-care-provider-data>].

legislature to remain committed to advancing the vision of Act 46 (2020) by investing in the construction of preschool facilities, as is proposed in this bill.

Mahalo nui for this opportunity to provide testimony and we ask this Committee to **pass** HB 2000, HD1, SD1.

He lei poina 'ole ke keiki – A beloved child is a lei never forgotten.



April 6, 2022

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony in Support of HB2000 HD1 SD1, Relating to Education

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to express HPM Building Supply's support of HB2000, relating to education. This bill appropriates funds to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities.

In my role as President and CEO of HPM Building Supply, I lead our company's 16 locations and facilities with over 450 employees on all major Hawaiian Islands. HPM Building Supply's guiding philosophy is to help our customers build better and live better by enhancing homes, improving lives, and transforming communities. Supporting Hawai'i's keiki is a key element to ensure the future health of our community. Many of our employees are young and growing families. Finding quality childcare and preschools are a struggle and additional facilities will go a long way to provide the necessary infrastructure to increase availability in our community.

Early learning experiences are vital to establish a strong foundation for keiki as part of a lifetime of learning. Investing in new preschool facilities and classrooms is not only the first step in expanding access for 3- and 4-year-old students, but also supporting Hawai'i's workforce and economy.

Working families, local businesses, and our economy rely on the availability of affordable, quality early learning and childcare. We know classroom space and costs continue to be significant hurdles in expanding access to early education. In fact, educators have identified the lack of space or appropriate facilities as the most common barrier to increasing the number of seats in their classrooms.¹

We respectfully ask for your support to ensure that every keiki in Hawai'i has access to quality early learning by funding HB2000 appropriately. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Jason Fujimoto
President & CEO



PHONE 808.966.5466 • FAX 808.966.7564
16-166 MELEKAHIWA STREET • KEA'AU, HI 96749

HPMHAWAII.COM

¹ DeBaryshe, B. D., Stern, I., Bellasario, C., Zysman, D., & Bird, O. Early childhood programs in Hawai'i. (2017). Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Center on the Family





LATE

Kamehameha Schools®

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Time: 10:20 a.m.

Date: April 7, 2022

Where: Conference Room 211

TESTIMONY

By Dr. Wai‘ale‘ale Sarsona
Kamehameha Schools

RE: HB 2000, HD1, SD1, Relating to Education

E ka Luna Ho‘omalua Dela Cruz, ka Hope Luna Ho‘omalua Keith-Agaran, a me nā lālā o ke Kōmike o nā Loa‘a a me nā Ho‘olilo o ka ‘Aha Kenekoa, aloha nui kākou! My name is Dr. Wai‘ale‘ale Sarsona, Vice President of Hi‘ialo at Kamehameha Schools.

Kamehameha Schools **supports** HB 2000, HD1, SD1, which appropriates moneys to the School Facilities Authority for the construction of preschool facilities.

The enactment of Act 46 (2020) was a pivotal step forward and we must remain steadfast in our commitment to this future in Hawai‘i. Since the start of the pandemic, Hawai‘i has lost over 3,600 seats, at least 6 preschools and many more family childcare providers. Our keiki cannot afford to lose any more.

Facilities space and cost continue to be a major hurdle to expanding access to unserved three- and four-year-old keiki across Hawai‘i. In the Hawai‘i Early Learning Needs Assessment (2017), center-based program directors listed the lack of space or appropriate facilities as the most common barrier to increasing the number of seats in their classrooms. Investing in the construction of preschool facilities is the next big step toward ensuring the future we all envision and the future that our keiki deserve. **Please advance this measure.**

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. Hānai i ke keiki; ola ka lāhui.

‘A‘ohe ‘ulu e loa‘a i ka pōkole o ka lou. There is no success without preparation.