



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/07/2023
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309 VIA
VIDEOCONFERENCE
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1331 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Extends the school supply subsidy pilot program established pursuant to Act 142, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, for an additional two years. Appropriates funds.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1331, which extends the school supply subsidy pilot program to all schools composed entirely of students eligible for participation in Title I funds for two additional years. The subsidy alleviates the financial burden of educational costs on low-income families and helps ensure student academic and social-emotional success.

The pilot school supply subsidy program for school year 2022-2023 provided \$806,800 for 20 public and charter schools: 17 elementary schools, one intermediate and high school combo, and two K-12 schools. The highly successful pilot subsidy program was quickly implemented and welcomed by receiving families and school staff members. Based on surveys administered to the participating school staff members, students, and families, 95% of the respondents felt that the subsidy relieved the financial burden of purchasing school supplies, and 98% would like to see the funding continued.

The Department appreciates the funding received and the consideration of continued support provided that this does not affect the priorities identified in the Department's Hawaii State Board of Education approved budget. With the additional funding, the Department is committed to report on the subsidy program findings and recommendations prior to the convening of the legislative session.

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

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



CATHY K. IKEDA
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

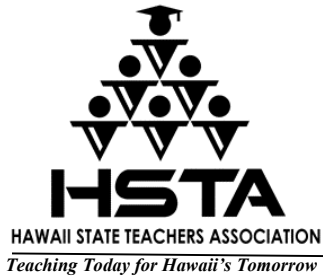
FOR: HB 1331 Relating to Education
DATE: February 7, 2023
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Education
ROOM: Conference Room 309 & Videoconference
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB 1331** which extends the school supply subsidy pilot program established pursuant to Act 142, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2022, for an additional two years and appropriates funds to the Department of Education.

On behalf of the public charter schools who have been included in this program, we appreciate the extension of this program to subsidize school supplies at schools composed entirely of students eligible for participation in Title I.

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

Osa Tui, Jr.
President
Logan Okita.
Vice President
Lisa Morrison
Secretary-Treasurer
Ann Mahi
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: HB1331 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2023

OSA TUI, JR., PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Woodson and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) asks your committee to **support HB1331**, relating to education. This bill extends the school supply subsidy pilot program established pursuant to Act 142, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2022, for an additional two years. Appropriates funds.

In a recent survey this month to its members across the islands, Hawaii State Teachers Association found the survey respondents reported spending an average of \$953 of their own money a year on various classroom supplies. Educators who answered the survey said they spent anywhere from \$75 to \$4,000 annually out of their own funds on various classroom supplies, conferences and many other expenses.

An O‘ahu high school teacher reported spending hundreds in personal money every year on basics, because “sometimes parents are unable to provide classroom supplies, so pencils, paper, composition books, etc.”

An educator at a Hilo-area intermediate school listed annual personal spending of \$1,000 on “typical classroom supplies: tablets, folders, binders, binder paper, construction paper, pencils, pens, tissue paper, paper towel, manila folders, sheet protectors. I also purchase snacks on a monthly basis and use it as a reward for my students. Chips, cookies, granola.”

Another O‘ahu teacher reported spending between \$1,000 to \$1,500 a year on “subscriptions to educational apps and sites, art supplies, books for class library, school supplies for kids who cannot afford or parents don’t buy, cleaning supplies, science experiment supplies, field trip fees for children who cannot afford it, lei for speakers/visitors, parking fees for workshops, professional development, recess equipment, and snacks for hungry children who miss ‘free’ breakfast on campus because they are tardy, etc.”

A teacher on Maui reported spending \$2,000 to \$3,000 out of her own pocket each year on “books for classroom library, prizes for classroom store, decorations



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

Ann Mahi
Executive Director

classroom, student Christmas gifts, student end-of-the-year gifts, art supplies, classroom treats, teacher supplies, classroom supplies.” for

A Kaua‘i teacher reported spending \$3,000 a year on lab supplies, project supplies for class and science fairs, snacks for students, professional development and conferences, classroom/school supplies, and furniture.

Teachers at our Title I Schools are thankful that this school supply subsidy pilot program passed last legislative session for one year, but especially in these trying times, they hope this pilot is able to be extended for one more year as well.

To support our students, teachers, and staff, with these crucial supplies for their classrooms for one more year, the Hawaii State Teachers Association urges you to **support** this bill.

HB-1331

Submitted on: 2/5/2023 12:58:12 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/7/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HB1331.