



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

Date: 03/15/2024

Time: 03:15 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0335, SD1 PROPOSED RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT.

Purpose of Bill: Exempts small purchases of career and technical education equipment for the department of education from the electronic procurement system requirements. Adjusts the quotation requirements for the procurement of small purchases of career and technical education equipment for the department. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD2)

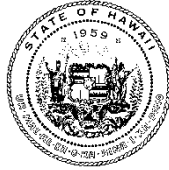
Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) strongly supports HB 335, proposed draft SD 1.

This exemption will enable the Department to acquire Career and Technical Education (CTE) equipment and associated services in a timely manner. The ever-evolving landscape of technology and industry demands rapid adaptation in educational settings. The timely acquisition of CTE equipment will provide students with up-to-date skills and knowledge that align with industry standards.

This bill would allow the Department to be responsive to the fast-paced nature of technological advancements, ensuring that students receive the best possible education by being able to access the tools and training necessary for success in their chosen careers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 335, proposed draft SD1.



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

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**TESTIMONY
OF
BONNIE KAHAKUI, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION**

March 15, 2024, 3:15 p.m.

**HOUSE BILL 335, HD2
and
HOUSE BILL 335, Proposed SD1
RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT**

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 335, HD2, and the proposed SD1. The State Procurement Office (SPO) understands the need to procure career and educational equipment that allow for student learning simulations, and thus provides the following comments and recommendations on each version of this bill.

HOUSE BILL 335, HD2

Comments:

The HD2 version adds a new section to Chapter 302A, Education, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), that procurements of less than \$100,000 for career and technical educational equipment for the DOE shall be exempt from the requirement to conduct procurements through an electronic procurement system. This version aligns the DOE's small purchase threshold to \$100,000, aligning with small purchase procedures outlined in §103D-305, HRS. This version also has guardrails in place to ensure that there is transparency and a standard process of checks and balances.

The SPO advises that verbal quotes are followed up with written quotes as a best practice, and that electronic procurement system is the fairest, most efficient, time-saving method of procuring small purchases.

Recommendations:

If this bill moves forward, the SPO respectfully recommends that clarifying language is added to Chapter 302A, HRS, as outlined in Section 2, beginning on page 2 of House Bill 335, HD2. That new section should read as follows:

§ 302A- Career and technical education equipment procurement; small purchases. Notwithstanding section 103D-305(c) and any other law to the contrary, procurements of less than \$100,000 for educational equipment, materials, and related training purchased for direct student instruction that are specific and unique to the career and technical education program as defined in section 302A-101, such as anatomy tables, flight simulators, and welding simulators, shall be exempt from the requirement to conduct procurements through an electronic system and shall only be subject to:

- (1) No less than three quotations for procurements of \$5,000 to less than \$15,000; and
- (2) No less than three written quotations for procurements of \$15,000 to less than \$100,000.

HOUSE BILL 335, Proposed SD1

Comments:

The SPO prefers the HD2 version of HB 335, with revised language noted above.

Thank you.



STATE OF HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL
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WAIPAHU, HI 96797
(808) 307-9555

March 11, 2024

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 335 proposed draft SD 2.

My name is Zachary Sheets, and I am the principal at Waipahu High School. Exponentially growing technology and fast-paced industry demands require schools to provide students with up-to-date skills and knowledge. Schools like mine require timely access to the cutting-edge tools and equipment necessary to train students for success in their chosen careers.

At Waipahu High School, we offer five unique academies and a total of 20 CTE pathways:

- Arts and Communication: Digital Design, Fashion Design, and Film & Media Production
- Natural Resources: Agriculture & Food Production Business, Food Systems, and Natural Resources & Wildlife Management
- Industrial and Engineering Technology: Architectural Design, Automation & Robotics, Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair, Cyber Security, Engineering, Residential & Commercial Construction, and Welding
- Professional and Public Services: Business, Culinary, Law & Justice, and Teacher Education
- Health and Science: Diagnostic Services & Medical Biotechnology, Human Performance & Kinesiology, and Nursing Services

The CTE pathways come to life through the application of real-world, industry-level tasks and training. In order to provide the up-to-date tasks and trainings, it requires state of the art equipment and tools. As an example, our Academy of Natural Resources is in the process of purchasing a vertical gardening system (i.e., freight farm) to enhance our students understanding of sustainability and farming. We are also attempting to purchase additional ag-tech devices, where the students can control environmental factors impacting agriculture production as our climate shifts over the next 10 – 20 years. Our students, today, are researching and developing solutions through their CTE courses for tomorrow's problems, and it is possible due to the industry-level equipment and tools within their classes.

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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Civil Rights Compliance Branch, Hawaii State Department of Education, P.O. Box 2360, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804, (808) 586-3322 or relay CRCB@k12.hi.us, Beth Schimmelfennig, Director, Rhonda Wong, Compliance, Aaron Oandasan, Title VI, Toby Yamashiro, Title VII, Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX, Krysti Sukita, ADA/504

However, for context, the process to purchase the vertical gardening system has taken over nine months due to procurement rules, and it is still not installed. There are additional examples for each academy and pathway. Therefore, providing this exemption for purchases of CTE goods and services would positively impact us by providing our teachers the needed access to efficiently purchase equipment, tools and training to ensure our students are career and future-ready.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Respectfully,



Zachary Sheets
Principal

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Honorable Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and esteemed members of the committee,

I am deeply grateful for the privilege to support of HB 335, as presented in proposed draft SD 1. I am Komarey Moss, Principal of Moanalua Middle School, and I come before you today with a sense of urgency regarding the critical importance of this bill.

In our ever-evolving landscape of technology and industry, the demand for up-to-date skills and knowledge among our students has never been more pressing. As educators, it is our duty to ensure that our students are equipped with the tools and resources necessary to thrive in today's competitive world.

At Moanalua Middle School, we take great pride in our commitment to providing students with robust career and technical education pathways. From Engineering and Design to Computer Science and beyond, we offer a diverse range of courses aimed at preparing our students for success in their chosen fields.

However, despite our best efforts, we often find ourselves hindered by bureaucratic red tape and logistical challenges when it comes to procuring the materials and resources needed to support these programs. This not only delays our ability to implement new initiatives but also deprives our students of valuable learning opportunities.

Moreover, we recognize the importance of aligning our CTE programs with those of Moanalua High School to create a seamless K-12 pathway for our students. By coordinating our efforts and resources, we can ensure that students transition smoothly from middle school to high school, building upon the skills and knowledge they have acquired along the way.

The proposed exemption for the purchase of career and technical education materials, along with associated training, would be a game-changer for us. It would allow us to bypass the

cumbersome procurement process and expedite the acquisition of essential resources, ensuring that our students have access to the latest tools and technologies they need to succeed.

In essence, HB 335 is not just about easing administrative burdens; it is about investing in the future of our students and empowering them to thrive in an increasingly complex world. By supporting this bill, you will be making a tangible difference in the lives of countless young people across our state.

I urge you to consider the profound impact that HB 335 could have on the future of education in Hawaii. Your support is not only needed but essential in ensuring that our students have every opportunity to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Komarey Moss (Mar 13, 2024 22:06 HST)

Komarey Moss

Principal

Moanalua Middle School

HB-335-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2024 9:14:13 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/15/2024 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean Wong	Testifying for Roosevelt High School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and members of the committees,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 335.

My name is Sean Wong, and I am the principal at Roosevelt High School.

Rapidly advancing technology and fast paced industry demands require schools to provide students with up-to-date skills and knowledge. Schools like mine require timely access to the cutting edge tools necessary to train students for success in their chosen careers.

At my school, we have experienced working with students on career and technical education pathways, which supports our vision of “College Ready, Career Ready and World Ready,” Enhancing our pathways involves providing our students with the necessary tools and resources to experience real-world applications. With the current procurement limits, the process to obtain equipment is tedious and time consuming. Providing this exemption for purchases of CTE goods and services would positively impact us by allowing schools to procure materials and equipment in a timely manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.