



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

Date: 02/10/2026
Time: 02:15 PM
Location: 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Committee: EDN

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB2294, RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LAND TRANSFER.

Purpose of Bill: Amends section 2 of Act 307, SLH 2022, to revise tax map key numbers and the conveyance process by which identified properties are to be conveyed to the Department of Education pursuant to Act 307.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2294, which seeks to amend Act 307, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2022, by updating Tax Map Key (TMK) numbers and clarifying the conveyance process for the identified public school properties.

The primary goal of this measure is to ensure the orderly and legal transfer of fee simple title to certain lands owned by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, County of Kauai, and County of Maui to the Department. HB 2294 provides necessary technical corrections or revisions to TMK numbers that have changed due to further verification of information, parcel consolidation or subdivision, or changes in circumstances since the passage of Act 307 in 2022.

The bill also eliminates ambiguity regarding the Department's authority over these parcels by specifying that these transfers are effective by operation of law as of July 1, 2022, the effective date of Act 307. Formalizing these transfers through the recording of quitclaim deeds ensures that the Department can effectively manage facilities, execute capital improvement projects (CIP), and maintain the safe, engaging learning environments Hawaii's students deserve.

One specific amendment to this bill that the Department is requesting is deleting land identified by TMK No.: (4)3-6-002:010 (Wilcox Elementary School), on page 4, line 7 from the Department to the County of Kauai. Currently, the bill reads the parcel is owned by the County of Kauai and would transfer the parcel to the Department. However, currently, the parcel is owned by the Department and we would like to transfer it to the County of Kauai. Therefore, in addition to deleting, page 4, line 7, the Department requests a new subsection (h) in Section 2 of the bill to transfer TMK No: (4)3-6-002:010 (Wilcox Elementary School) from the Department of Education to the

County of Kauai.

Since the enactment of Act 307, the County of Kauai and the Department have been in collaboration on this matter and requests that this conveyance be transferred, as is, based on the following terms and conditions:

1. As this is a conveyance in which the county of Kauai and the State and its agencies are the only parties, the tax imposed by section 247-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall not apply. The county of Kauai shall accept the property in its existing condition.
2. All claims and liabilities against the department of education, if any, which the county of Kauai has, may have had, or may have in the future, regarding any injury, loss, cost, damage, or liability, including reasonable attorney's fees, concerning the physical, environmental, soil, economic, and legal conditions of the conveyed property, shall be released, waived, and extinguished.

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