



Testimony BOE <testimony.boe@boe.hawaii.gov>

Testimony in support of the Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS)

1 message

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To: Testimony.BOE@boe.hawaii.gov

Wed, Nov 18, 2020 at 9:14 AM

Kenneth Uemura, **FINANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE** Committee Chairperson**Testimony in Support of BOTH
Committee IV. Recommendation for Action A.****Full Board for VII. Action Item C:**

Our 'ohana are Friends of the Libraries of Hawaii speaking in support of the HSPLS' budget requests for facilities and basic needs. While local library facilities anchor community learning, Librarians and other personnel provide essential services for our civic responsibilities and other needs. Our State Librarian and her staff provide leadership for a lifetime of learning for our communities.

Our 51 public library locations on 6 islands are vital social infrastructure for our community's learning. Our inter-library loan ability to request items from across the system and have them delivered to our closest facility for access adds great value. My family appreciates greatly access to the HSPLS loan program, and we're happy to pay our fair share to enjoy shared resources.

Now more than ever, as Hawaii seeks to endure and recover from the pandemic and economic crisis, our families and community needs access to free, publicly-funded resources. We appreciate funding which supports statewide access to electronic resources as well, to support our ongoing learning and growing. We appreciate our library's efforts to support community needs in this difficult time.

Mahalo for supporting Hawaii's public libraries, one of our greatest uses of public funding.

We LOVE our Libraries and librarians!

Sincerely,

The Anderson 'ohana

Currently on Hawai'i island



Corey Rosenlee
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Osa Tui, Jr.
Vice President
Logan Okita
Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE STATE OF HAWAII BOARD OF EDUCATION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

IV. B. Committee Action on Department of Education's repair and maintenance priority list in accordance with Board Policy 301-10, Equitable Allocation of Facilities Resources (FIC Strategic Priority 2)

To Chair Uemura and Members of the Finance and Infrastructure:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association has serious questions about Board Policy 301-10, Equitable Allocation of Facilities Resources which enables “HIDOE to complete all facilities projects at our schools with the greatest socioeconomic and academic needs to advance equity (FIC Strategic Priority 2).”

According to the Jacobs study on the DOE statewide facilities mater plan, it states that top priority projects for basic repair and maintenance and overcrowding for DOE schools is 7 billion, yet the legislature’s annual appropriation is approximately \$300 million. It will take decades before appropriations meets needs.

In a world where school facilities were funded at or near need then this policy would work. The concern is that if Title 1 schools are prioritized for limited dollars, then non-title 1 school facilities will be in jeopardy of falling under disrepair, because every year they would be the lowest priority.

If legislators also see that schools in their districts may never see CIP, because of this policy they may be less likely to advocate and pass CIP funding.

HSTA would ask that these issues be addressed about this policy before implementation.