

SB745

Date: 02/02/2009

Committee: Senate Education and Housing

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0745 RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

Purpose of Bill: Requires construction and renovation of public school facilities to meet the Collaborative for High Performance Schools standards. Requires replacement of old portable buildings with high performance classrooms. Also requires prioritization of public school facilities projects in accordance with certain criteria.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (DOE) supports the intent of S.B. No. 745, but not its implementation.

Section 3 amends HRS Section 196-9 by adding subsection (c)(1) requiring the design and construction of all public school facilities, including renovations and projects under 5,000 square feet, to meet the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) rating system. This amendment is redundant given that CHPS is a nationally recognized rating system that is already covered under the existing subsection (b) of 196-9. The DOE is currently incorporating CHPS criteria and referencing its Best Practices Guidelines for both new construction and renovation projects.

Proposed subsection (c)(2), regarding the development and implementation of a portable classroom replacement program, would place the burden of an unfunded mandate on the DOE. Given the high cost of constructing new portable classrooms, and the very limited funds available, we feel it is more appropriate to replace portables when their condition warrants replacement, rather than on a preset schedule. In addition, the DOE currently has pilot projects underway to retrofit and

reduce energy use in existing portables and to develop an energy neutral prototype high performance modular classroom.

In proposed subsection (c)(3), we are unclear whether items A through F are being proposed as the only criteria to be used in the prioritization of public school facilities projects or whether these are in addition to other criteria already being used.

In sum, the DOE does not feel the bill is needed given the DOE's current direction and emphasis on high performance schools and energy conservation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO
 GENTRY PACIFIC DESIGN CENTER, STE. 215A • 560 N. NIMITZ HIGHWAY, #50 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817
 (808) 524-2249 • FAX (808) 524-6893

January 30, 2009

NOLAN MORIWAKI
President
 Bricklayers & Ceramic Tile Setters
 Local 1 & Plasterers/Cement
 Masons Local 630

JOSEPH O'DONNELL
Vice President
 Iron Workers Local 625

DAMIEN T. K. KIM
Financial Secretary
 International Brotherhood of
 Electrical Workers Local 1186

ARTHUR TOLENTINO
Treasurer
 Sheet Metal Workers I.A. Local 293

MALCOLM K. AHLGREN
Sergeant-At-Arms
 Carpet, Linoleum, & Soft Tile
 Local 1296

REGINALD CASTANARES
Trustee
 Plumbers & Fitters Local 675

HADDEUS TOMEI
 Elevator Constructors Local 126

JOSEPH BAZEMORE
 Drywall, Tapers, & Finishers
 Local 1944

RICHARD TAGGERE
 Welders, Architectural Metal &
 Glassworkers Local Union 1889

AUGHN CHONG
 Roofers, Waterprooferers & Allied
 Workers United Union of Roofers
 Local 221

MARY AYCOCK
 Millwrights, Ironship Builders
 Local 627

ANN KINNEY
 District Council 50
 Painters & Allied Trades
 Local 1791

ALANI MAHOE
 Mechanical Engineers Local 3

EDMOND SEBRESOS
 International Assoc. of
 Glass & Frost Insulators
 Allied Workers Local 132

Honorable Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair
 Honorable Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
 Members of the Senate Committee on Education and Housing
 Hawaii State Capital
 415 South Beretania Street
 Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: **IN SUPPORT OF SB 745**
 RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES
 Hearing: Monday, February 2, 2009, 1:15 p.m.

Dear Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Kidani and the Senate Committee on Education and Housing:

For the Record my name is Buzz Hong the Executive Director for the Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO. Our Council is comprised of 16-construction unions and a membership of 26,000 statewide.

The Council SUPPORTS the passage of SB745 that requires construction and renovation of public school facilities to meet the Collaborative for High Performance Schools standards. Requires replacement of old portable buildings with high performance classrooms. Also requires prioritization of public school facilities projects in accordance with certain criteria.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of SB745.

Sincerely,

W. Hong / dg
 William "Buzz" Hong
 Executive Director

WBH/dg