

February 25, 2010

Representative Marcus Oshiro
Chair, House Committee on Finance
State Capitol, Conference Room 308
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LATE

RE: HB 2277 HD1 – RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE
BONDS TO ASSIST KAIMUKI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

Kaimuki Business and Professional Association has valued Kaimuki Christian School's participation as a member and value the school's contribution in the community for the past 40 years. KCS and its participants have been involved in the annual Celebrate Kaimuki Kanikapila (CKK), Christmas Parade, and other community events.

We would fully support KCS in funding capital projects for the school to expand and accommodate more students from the community.

Sincerely,
John E. Kobayashi
Past President & Director of KBPA

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Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

Aloha. My name is Berry Andelin and I work at the Kaimuki Library. I am writing to you today on behalf of our friends and neighbors at Kaimuki Christian School. We are the lucky recipients of frequent class visits from KCS. It would do your hearts good to see how well behaved these children are. And such lovely manners! It is a pleasure for us to interact with them.

Kaimuki Christian School has also been a staunch supporter of our library in many ways. They have painted over graffiti for us and hauled away rubbish that was dumped into our parking lot. They have made extremely generous financial contributions to buy books for our collection. And, they have shown up in force and worked incredibly hard at our fund raising book sales.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Berry Andelin
Head of Circulation
Kaimuki Public Library

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Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

I am a parent of two boys who have attended Kaimuki Christian School. My youngest is 5. KCS is an amazing 'ohana and outreach for the community.

The campus and program allows the teachers and students to cross-pollinate educationally, socially and culturally. They have an outstanding academic program that fosters learning, and stewardship. We have participated in the school's volunteer opportunities by cleaning up neighborhood graffiti.

The expanded campus/new facilities will benefit my family by allowing my youngest son to graduate from High School. I don't want to send him anywhere else. This is his extended 'ohana. I had to find another school for my older son to attend as they had no High School. My older son feels that KCS offers a much stronger academic and moral program than what he has at his new school.

The Special Purpose Revenue Bond will help the students, the parents and the community in more ways than can be listed.

Sincerely,
Mary Bueche
P.O. Box 754
Honolulu, HI 96808

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RE: HB 2277 HD1 – RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE
REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST KAIMUKI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

I am writing this letter in regard to the Special Purpose Revenue Bond bill. With the passing of this bill it will benefit Kaimuki Christian School and in turn our young people of Hawaii and the whole community.

Kaimuki Christian School has always meant a lot to our family. My nephew, Michael Kozuma has gone to KCS since kindergarten (he is now in the 8th grade) and has thrived there through the quality education and caring attention the school gives each student. Now my daughter and son are attending KCS and are also doing wonderful, not only academically but also as a young-people with values and goals. I have also recommended KCS to many friends who now attend the school.

In addition, KCS offers a wonderful education at an affordable price. Living in Hawaii is expensive and with the current state of the education system it is difficult to find an affordable alternative to some of the larger private schools. I know that each parent wants only the best for their child. KCS provides a quality education at an affordable price. With this bill, it will help provide KCS the means to expand the school to include high school and thereby enabling my children a chance to continue on with a quality education.

Thank you for supporting this bill and ensuring it passes.

Sincerely,

Sandra & Keld Christensen
291 Elelupe Road
Honolulu, HI 96821

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Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

Please allow us to express our strong support and thanks for introducing a Special Purpose Revenue Bond bill on behalf of Kaimuki Christian School.

Our nine-year-old twins have attended Kaimuki Christian School since kindergarten and are currently in the fourth grade. They have benefitted greatly by the quality education KCS is known for. Just as importantly, we appreciate the upright values KCS emphasizes to help them become good citizens.

We wholeheartedly support Kaimuki Christian School's efforts to expand their facilities so more families will have an opportunity to experience their fine program. We thank you again for helping the school accomplish this most worthy endeavor.

With kind regards,

Kevin Lui & Elna Masuda
Candace & Ethan Lui
927 Ikena Circle
Honolulu, HI 96821

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TO ASSIST KAIMUKI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

We are in support of Kaimuki Christian School and their upcoming Master Plan Expansion. We feel it will benefit not only our children but the community also. Kaimuki Christian School teaches children not only strong academics to give them a good future, but also a solid foundation teaching them the tools they need in becoming a good citizen in the community and world.

Kaimuki Christian School means so much to our family. We have been a part of KCS for many years. My brother and I are alumni of the school. We attended KCS from preschool to 6th grade, graduated in the mid '80's and are proud to have both have our children attend there along with friends and other family members. I am also a former Preschool teacher at KCS and currently substitute teach there when my schedule allows. Working there is a wonderful blessing and very rewarding. People at KCS are genuine and really care about the parents, children and staff. My Mother also volunteers in the school office twice a week.

Kids that attend KCS are very well behaved and learn respect, good study habits, and kindness. Other people outside of the school notice and have commented positively many times about kids they see from KCS. Children that have come to KCS from another school can see the difference in the school, such as my stepson. He has said many times that the children at KCS are kind and respectful of others. He also noted that you could tell that the teachers really care about you and go out of their way for you if you need help.

Our family believes the expanded campus and new facilities will benefit the school and community tremendously. KCS offers scholarship programs to help families that cannot afford the full tuition such as ourselves due to us having 3 children that attend there. There are many parents along with myself that would love to have the children stay in a private school setting up until high school getting a good education and where it is close knit setting and the kids are known my name and not numbers.

We believe the community would benefit because KCS does not only stick within its campus. The kids are taught to do outreach to the community. The children have a number of projects that are done outside of the school. The facilities are also used for a number of community activities such as a Fall Harvest Party for October 31.

Thank you for your support on this bill.

Sincerely,
Kathy and Patrick Matsuki
Brian Lock
834 17th Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816

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RE: HB 2277 HD1 – RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE
REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST KAIMUKI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

I proudly write this letter to ask for your support of the Special Purpose Revenue Bond which would help Kaimuki Christian School acquire tax exempt bonds.

As a Kaimuki resident, I have seen and experienced first hand, the services provided by the school such as library volunteers, community clean-ups, and free activities for children and their families.

I also have close connections to the school as a former teacher and now a proud parent. In the past 15 years I have seen the school grow in population, purpose, and physical space. There is still room for growth and a larger campus with new facilities will help the school and community in large measures. A larger school means more people will be exposed to the values of the school with returns to the community.

Sincerely,



Sachi Matsushita
943D 9th Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816
(808)626-5280

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Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

I am writing this letter of support Kaimuki Christian School, where my son has attended for five years. I believe this school is an asset to the community and it provides an excellent education. The school has been in existence for forty years. Due to word of mouth, the demand has grown and the administrators have responded by gradually increasing the enrollment. The school offers an excellent education with Christian values for a reasonable price. I have personally recommended this school to three other families who now have children attending. However, the expansion is costly and it would help immensely if the school were to qualify for tax exempt bonds.

Kaimuki Christian School offers many wonderful programs for the children. My son has enjoyed the "Reading Buddies" program for years. In kindergarten, he was read to by a third grade student. Now, as a fourth grader, he is giving back by reading to the new kindergarten students for the second year in a row. The children take SAT tests yearly that provide the parents with a measure of their progress. The kids perform very well on the test, there is no need for a "no child left behind" statute here. My son's kindergarten class size was 12. His fourth grade class size is 16 so I know he is getting the attention and help he needs.

Recently, the children's chapel offering was donated to the Haiti Earthquake relief fund. Unlike some other private schools, Kaimuki Christian accepts children on a first-come, first-serve basis because the school's belief is that all children deserve a quality education, not just the top five percent. This school has been a second home for my child where he can learn in a safe caring environment. The school offers music and physical education programs as part of the regular curriculum along with computer instruction beginning in kindergarten. As of fourth grade he has been able to play basketball on the school team.

Kaimuki Christian School gives back to the community by offering value, solid academics, and a safe Christian environment. The children are forming bonds and developing support systems that will hopefully last a lifetime. The school values community in turn by supporting the Kaimuki Christmas Parade, the library, the local businesses, an annual walkathon to raise money for scholarships, and volunteerism. The children participate in Christmas caroling at the Leahi Hospital and donate shoebox Christmas gifts for needy children. This school is teaching children to grow into responsible contributing members of the community. In addition, the expansion of the school is providing much-needed jobs for the economy.

Sincerely,
Joyce Riley, RN, MSN
836 Hokulani Street
Honolulu, HI 96825
Tel: 808-391-2194

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**RE: HB 2277 HD1 - RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE
REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST KAIMUKI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.**

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

My name is Norman G.Y. Hong AIA. I have been a Board-member of Kaimuki Christian School for the past seven years and hereby submit this testimony representing the Board of KCS. I am also Vice Chairman/Chief Executive Officer of Group 70 International, one of the largest architectural and planning firms in Hawaii.

I support the proposed House Bill that would authorize KCS to seek Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to help finance the school's implementation of its Master Plan for the following reasons:

- KCS has been a vital part of the Kaimuki community for the past 40 years and has served a significant role in providing quality education at a reasonable cost to families in and around the Kaimuki and East Honolulu region. Many of its students have gone on to become valuable contributing members of our community.
- KCS has also been involved in a number of programs serving the surrounding community, including Book Sale Days at Kaimuki Regional Library, and Common Grace, an Oahu-wide program that provides adult mentoring to public school children.
- KCS currently provides education at the preschool, primary and middle school levels for approximately 300 students. For the past 2 years, I have assisted KCS in developing a Master Plan to increase the school to include a High School (Grades 9 through 12), as well as to provide additional classes at all grade levels. The expressed purpose of the High School curriculum is to prepare students who seek to pursue careers in community service. The issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds would enable KCS to implement their Master Plan, thereby achieving its goal of educating more students to be contributors to the community.
- Implementation of the estimated \$20 million Master Plan would contribute towards helping the currently struggling construction industry and economic condition of the State, while providing additional quality educational opportunities.

For all of the above reasons, I respectfully ask for your support of HB 2277 HD1.
Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Hong