

Date: 03/17/2010

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn Matayoshi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 240/HR 168 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO REPORT ON THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING WI-FI INTERNET ACCESS ON SCHOOL BUSES.

Purpose of Resolution: Requesting the Department of Education to convene a task force to report on the feasibility of providing wi-fi internet access on school buses.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (Department) supports the idea of convening a task force to research and report on the feasibility of providing Internet on school buses, if funding is provided to support the task force.

At a minimum, the following activities or their equivalent is envisioned: identify eligible routes, conduct a market survey of potential users, research technical requirements and possible solutions, research statutory requirements, and develop a business plan.

Furthermore, specifying wi-fi as the delivery mechanism may pre-determine potential solutions; therefore, the Department suggests substituting "wi-fi technology" and "wi-fi Internet access", with "wireless technology" and "wireless Internet access" in this resolution.

Furthermore, the Department would like to understand whether the objective of this initiative is to be self-sustaining; i.e., not subsidized by the State of Hawaii in any manner?

berg1-Matthew

From: brian tokuuke [briantokuub@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2010 9:12 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Subject: HCR240/HR168

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Berg and Members,

I am writing in support of HCR 240/HR 168, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO REPORT ON THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING WI-FI INTERNET ACCESS ON SCHOOL BUSES. Often times student are required to ride long distances on school buses and allowing for internet access on these rides would give students the opportunity to study for exams and research for school lessons, while on these long rides. Productive use of time can result from allowing internet access so please vote in favor or HCR 240/HR 168.

Sincerely,
Brian Tokuuke