



LATE TESTIMONY

Linda Lingle  
Governor

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**FOR:** SB 2589 Relating to Charter Schools and  
SB 2590 Relating to Education  
**DATE:** Monday, February 8, 2010  
**TIME:** 1:45 p.m.  
**COMMITTEE(S):** Education and Housing  
**ROOM:** Conference Room 225  
**FROM:** Maunalei Love, Executive Director

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Testimony in **support** of S.B. No. 2589 and S.B. No. 2590.

Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

Aloha, I am Maunalei Love, executive director of the Charter School Administrative Office (“CSAO”). I want to thank the chair and the entire committee for the time and effort being spent to remedy the issue of adequately providing needed resources to all public schools. The CSAO supports providing the charter schools access to available facilities to maximize the use of our facilities for our students to give them the educational opportunities that will enable them to succeed.

We support both SB2590, requiring the Department of Education (DOE) to consider making public school facilities available to charter schools when such facilities are closed, and SB2589, requiring to make such facilities available and establishes a process for the DOE and Charter School Review Panel to review, approve or deny applications for such facilities.

Both bills serve to benefit the public charter school system, the DOE, and the state, which has to maintain public facilities without creating a significant fiscal impact on the state budget.

We support these bills for the changes they make towards providing equitable funding and a supportive environment for all DOE and public charter schools to better position Hawaii in competition for U.S. Department of Education’s Race to the Top (RTT) initiative. States with policies in place supporting equitable funding and facilities for all public school students are at greater competitive advantage to qualify for RTT and other federal grant programs.

Please include any revisions necessary to include the public charter schools in these funding mechanisms. The CSAO is ready, willing, and able to help with any revisions. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.