



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
April 5, 2016

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: SCR 153 SD1 and SR 115 SD1 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A TWO-YEAR PILOT PROJECT TO IMPLEMENT CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON A BLOCK BASIS RATHER THAN ON A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SCR 153 SD1 and SR 115 SD1**. The resolutions call for the Department of Education (DOE) to conduct a pilot project to implement contracts for services for students with disabilities on a block basis.

The pilot project provides opportunity for DOE to demonstrate a cost benefit analysis of contracting services through a block contract model and an employee-based model. Block contracting offers flexibility in the delivery of services to directly address multiple and diverse needs of students through one-on-one and group settings specific to the individual's education plan.

The results of the pilot project would provide useful data and shed light on the most cost efficient use of funds and use of DOE personnel with the maximum benefit to students with disabilities in the delivery of services. With limited funds for special education services and low academic performance of students with disabilities, it is in the best interest of DOE to implement the pilot project.

The Council supports the request in the resolutions that ask DOE to convene a working group to assist in the pilot project. We welcome the opportunity to work with DOE, parents, and community stakeholders indicated on Page 2 to carry out the activities to implement the pilot project.

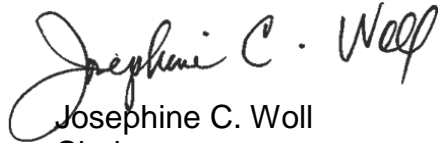
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda
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April 5, 2016

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SCR 153 SD1
and SR 115 SD1.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator



Josephine C. Woll
Chair

Written Only

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 04/05/2016

Time: 01:00 PM

Location: 211

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 153 SD1 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A TWO-YEAR PILOT PROJECT TO IMPLEMENT CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON A BLOCK BASIS RATHER THAN ON A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS.

Purpose of Resolution:

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports SCR 153 SD1.

The Department welcomes the opportunity to collaboratively work with stakeholders to explore contracted services on a block basis to better address a least restrictive environment for special education students.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council

919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101

Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129

email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

April 5, 2016

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

Ms. Martha Guinan, *Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta

Dr. Tammy Bopp

Dr. Robert Campbell, *liaison
to the military*

Ms. Deborah Cheeseman

Ms. Annette Cooper

Ms. Shari Dela Cuadra-Larsen,
liaison to the Superintendent

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Mr. Sage Goto

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Ms. Bernadette Lane

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Ms. Zaidarene Place

Ms. Barbara Pretty

Ms. Kau'i Rezentes

Ms. Rosie Rowe

Dr. Patricia Sheehey

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Mr. Tom Smith

Ms. Lani Solomon

Dr. Todd Takahashi

Dr. Daniel Ulrich

Dr. Amy Wiech

Ms. Jasmine Williams

Ms. Susan Wood

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff

Susan Rocco, Staff

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SCR 153, SD 1 / SR 115, SD 1 - REQUESTING THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A TWO-
YEAR PILOT PROJECT TO IMPLEMENT CONTRACTS FOR
SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON A
BLOCK BASIS IN ADDITION TO A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State
Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
(IDEA), strongly supports SCR 153, SD 1 and SR 115, SD 1 that create
a pilot program within the Department of Education to implement
contracts for supports for students with disabilities on a block basis in
addition to a one-to-one basis.

Block basis refers to a flexible unit of service to address the diverse
needs of one or more students based on each student's Individualized
Education Plan. It includes both one-to-one services and group services
as appropriate for the identified needs of the students served.

This resolution originated from the community. The Coalition on
Children with Special Needs, of which SEAC is a participating
member, has been on record for several years in advising the
Department on maintaining continuity of quality support to students
with disabilities through more cost effective utilization of contracted
personnel. Given our interest, we are pleased to be included in the
working group outlined in the legislation.

At a time when legislators and other policy makers are focusing on
appropriate supports to improve the dismal academic performance
of students with disabilities, as well as the efficient use of special
education funds, SCR 153, SD 1 and SR 115, SD 1 offer an opportunity
to address three drawbacks of the current contracting system:

1) the potentially negative (although unintentional) effects on some



students with disabilities receiving one-to-one contracted paraprofessional services. A number of educational studies have documented the unintended detrimental effects of “excessive paraprofessional proximity” including, but not limited to:

- separation from classmates,
- unnecessary dependence,
- limited access to appropriate instruction,
- interference with the engagement of teachers,
- provocation of problem behaviors,
- interference with peer interactions, and
- loss of personal control (Giangreco et al., 2005);

2) the lack of flexibility for efficient use of classroom personnel in group instruction; and

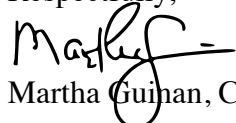
3) the high cost of one-to-one programming.

In the pilot project students requiring one-to-one services per their IEP will continue to receive those services, while other students needing intermittent support and opportunities to learn alongside their typically developing peers will also benefit from receiving appropriate services through flexible service delivery models. SEAC anticipates the two-year pilot will demonstrate substantial cost savings to the Department through more efficient use of contract funds. The flexible use of contracted personnel may also help to mitigate the missing supports resulting from a chronic shortage of Educational Assistants. In addition, the working group and pilots will help to research and determine evidence-based models for providing flexible and effective supports to students per their IEPs.

SEAC is aware of the issue of families and providers mistrusting the intentions of the Department and is committed to working collaboratively with the Department, providers and families to ensure robust communication, transparency and positive outcomes for students with disabilities. In addition, there is a general perception that contract costs are inherently more expensive than employee-based service delivery models. SEAC anticipates that the required cost-benefit analysis and comparison of a block contract model vs. an employee-based model may reveal a number of hidden costs in the employee-based model, making the expenditures comparable. The data provided by the analysis will help to provide greater clarity for decisionmaking about service delivery models that are beneficial to the student in terms of continuity and quality of support, while at the same time being cost effective.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important legislation. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Respectfully,


Martha Guinan, Chair



COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL OF HAWAII
1177 Alakea Street · B-100 · Honolulu · HI · 96813
TEL: (808) 586-5363 · TOLL FREE: 1-800-437-8641 · FAX: (808) 586-5366

April 3rd, 2016

TO: Committee on Ways and Means – State Capitol

RE: **SCR153** – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A TWO-YEAR PILOT PROJECT TO IMPLEMENT CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON A BLOCK BASIS RATHER THAN ON A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS.

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee,

The Community Children's Councils (CCC's) **supports SCR153** which requests the DOE to conduct a 2 year pilot project to implement contracts for students with disabilities on a block bases rather than on a one-to-one basis.

The CCC's support the testimony of SEAC. We are aware of the potentially significant negative consequences of an over reliance on 1:1 paraprofessional services. Block services will allow children whose IEP services support group instruction to be grouped together with students having similar needs which provides greater flexibility for delivery of services to expand social, communication, life skills and academic goals. We recognize there are some reservations by community members, however we are committed to see the success of this pilot. The provision of services is based upon the child's IEP which will determine if group services are appropriate.

The 17 CCCs are community-based bodies comprised of parents, professionals in both public and private agencies and other interested persons who are concerned with specialized services provided to Hawaii's students. Membership is diverse, voluntary and advisory in nature. The CCCs are in rural and urban communities organized around the Complexes in the Department of Education.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Community Children's Council Office (CCCCO) at 586-5363.

Thank you for considering our testimony,
Jessica Wong-Sumida, Chair

(Original signature are on file with the CCCO)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: louis@hawaiidisabilityrights.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR153 on Apr 5, 2016 13:00PM
Date: Friday, April 01, 2016 8:04:05 PM

SCR153

Submitted on: 4/1/2016

Testimony for WAM on Apr 5, 2016 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louis Erteschik	Hawaii Disability Rights Center	Oppose	No

Comments: We are strongly opposed. The students referenced in this measure typically have high needs and require 1-1 services. Block services would be inappropriate for this population. From our conversations with stakeholders we understand that there may be some issues with DOE procurement practices. We submit that that "problem", if it truly exists, is one that can be solved internally by the DOE. A Task Force or pilot project is not necessary and we are very concerned that a pilot project will lead to efforts by the DOE to circumvent the IDEA, which would be a violation of federal law.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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