



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**SCHOOL FACILITIES AUTHORITY**  
75 AUPUNI STREET, STE. BASEMENT  
HILO, HAWAII 96720

February 3, 2023

**Testimony providing SUPPORT of SB941**  
**RELATING TO THE SCHOOL FACILITIES AUTHORITY**

SENATOR MICHELLE N. KIDANI, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Hearing Date: 02/03/2023

Room Number 229

The School Facilities Authority (SFA) is in **support** of S.B. 941, RELATING TO THE SCHOOL FACILITIES AUTHORITY.

The SFA appreciates the Legislature's continued support and commitment to creating new teacher housing for our educator workforce. We also appreciate that the Legislature has acknowledged that housing our educators has the dual opportunity of addressing our lack of affordable housing and our chronic teacher shortage in one project. We look forward to working with the Legislature, the DOE, and our State development partners to deliver teacher housing in the coming years.

The SFA, through partnership and collaboration with the DOE, have identified multiple sites that have preliminary been sited for teacher housing and are in areas that will serve multiple communities in need. These include Nanakuli High and Intermediate, Mililani and Waipahu High Schools. The SFA has the potential to engage with both public and private development partners for these types of projects in a variety of capacities.

The SFA would appreciate the consideration by the Legislature that there are critical issues that must be addressed when it comes to redevelopment and repurposing of existing school campuses. Depending on the expectations on the delivery date of these projects, the SFA may require additional considerations beyond funding to expedite these critical housing projects.

The SFA looks forward to continuing to work with the Legislature to deliver affordable housing for our educator workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**Executive Office on Early Learning**  
2759 South King Street  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

February 1, 2023

**TO:** Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

**FROM:** Yuuko Arikawa-Cross, Director  
Executive Office on Early Learning

**SUBJECT: Measure:** S.B. No. 941 – RELATING TO THE SCHOOL FACILITIES  
AUTHORITY  
**Hearing Date:** Friday, February 3, 2023  
**Time:** 3:00 pm  
**Location:** Conference Room 229

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: Support**

EOEL supports S.B. No. 941 and defers to the School Facilities Authority.

Hawaii continues to be plagued by a shortage of licensed teachers, particularly in rural and remote and hard-to-fill areas. Affordable teacher housing is a well-established solution to address barriers to teacher recruitment and retention efforts. Pre-kindergarten teachers, some of whom are in rural and remote areas, may benefit from this bill.

We thank the Legislature for their commitment to support initiatives that address workforce barriers. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.