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STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

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FOR: HB 2739 Relating to Education
DATE: Friday, February 5, 2016
TIME: 2:00 PM
COMMITTEE(S): House Committee on Education
ROOM: Conference Room 309
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Comments only for HB2739

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission appreciates the opportunity to submit these comments regarding Senate Bill 3103, "Relating to Education." When proposed legislation addresses "public schools," this generally is understood to include public charter schools. We note that the bill appropriates general funds to the Department of Education (DOE) to provide for the direct travel expenses of chaperones and to fund scholarships to provide financial assistance to students who would not otherwise be able to participate in educational travel.

If the proposed requirements are intended to apply to DOE school chaperones and students only, we respectfully request that the bill be amended to change the references to "public school chaperones and students" to say "department school chaperones and students." We note that the proposed general fund appropriation to the DOE would be factored into calculating per-pupil funding to charter schools. However, if the intent is to provide direct support for public charter school chaperones and students as well, we respectfully request that the bill be amended to make this clear.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.