



20 ARGUMENTS YOU CAN MAKE TO YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS TO INCREASE SCHOOL FUNDING WITH A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ON NOV. 6, A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WILL BE ON THE BALLOT TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS BY TAXING RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT PROPERTIES. THE INTENT OF THE BILL IS TO TAX SECOND HOMES WORTH MORE THAN \$1 MILLION. HERE ARE 20 REASONS TO VOTE YES ON THE CONAM.

HAWAII'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE CHRONICALLY UNDERFUNDED

- 1 [Hawaii spends the lowest percentage of county and state funds on education in the country, just 27 percent, far below the U.S. average of 37 percent.](#)
- 2 [When adjusted for cost of living, Hawaii ranks 45th in the nation in per pupil spending.](#)

THE UNDERFUNDING OF HAWAII'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORSENS A DANGEROUS TEACHER SHORTAGE

- 3 [When adjusted for cost of living, Hawaii teachers are the lowest paid in the nation.](#)
- 4 [Hawaii has a teacher shortage of more than 1,000 teachers, a figure which increased by 10 percent in the 2017-2018 school year.](#)
- 5 [Hawaii is ranked as the 49th worst state in which to be a teacher.](#)

THE UNDERFUNDING OF HAWAII'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS HURTS STUDENTS

- 6 [Hawaii ranks 41st in the nation in 8th grade reading scores on the NAEP.](#)
- 7 [Hawaii is 47th in the nation in completion rates for 9th grade to college.](#)
- 8 [Native Hawaiian public school students are more likely to have inexperienced, unqualified and out-of-field teachers. \(Page 30\).](#)
- 9 [Only 14 percent of Native Hawaiian learners complete post-secondary education/training. \(Page 13\)](#)

WHY USE PROPERTY TAXES TO FUND HAWAII SCHOOLS?

- 10 [Hawaii is the only state not to use property taxes to fund public education.](#)
- 11 [Hawaii has the lowest property tax rate in the country.](#)
- 12 [Low property taxes lead to high home and land prices.](#)
- 13 [Nearly 1/3 of all property taxes in Hawaii are not paid by local residents. \(Page 3\).](#)
- 14 [Hawaii housing prices have doubled in 15 years and the price of townhomes has tripled.](#)
- 15 [Corporations and millionaires use Hawaii's property for speculative purposes.](#)

WHY USE PROPERTY TAXES TO FUND HAWAII SCHOOLS?

16	Nonresidents own 52 percent of the homes on Maui. (Page 9)
17	One in 10 homes in Kauai is a vacation rental. (Page 6)
18	Only 16.7 percent of homes rented to Maui residents are owned by nonresident property owners. (Page 9)
19	A recent poll shows 78 percent of Americans support higher pay for teachers.
20	More people are leaving Hawaii than moving in. One factor is the high cost of living and affordable housing.