Written Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Education Friday, February 12, 2016 at 12:30 p.m. by
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HB 1228 HD1 – RELATING TO TEACHER LEADERS

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and Members of the Committee on Education.

The College of Education (COE) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa supports HB 1228 HD1, that will provide bonuses of \$2,500 to each teacher who completes the requirements to add-a-field of teacher leader to their existing license.

We believe the teacher leader endorsement is an effective vehicle to delegate leadership responsibilities and improve education at all levels while rewarding and retaining excellent teachers in the profession. The added financial incentive will encourage potential leaders to step up and contribute to improving their immediate context.

The College of Education already has in place graduate programs at master level that prepare teachers as leaders to meet the add-a-field licensing requirements. We will be pleased to partner with the Hawai'i Department of Education in taking this major step in improving outcomes for students.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.