



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

## TESTIMONY

S.B. 876: RELATING TO EDUCATION

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education and  
Committee on Education and Military Affairs

February 15, 2005

By

Randy Hitz  
Dean  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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Chair Hee & Sakamoto, Vice Chair Inouye & Hooser, and  
Members of the Committees:

Thank you for hearing S.B. 876 and for this opportunity to  
testify. The University supports S.B. 876.

The legislature has strongly supported national board  
certification for our public school teachers, and very  
recent research is confirming the wisdom of that support.  
National Board Certified (NBC) teachers outperform other  
teachers with similar levels of education and experience.  
Students in classrooms with NBC teachers achieve at higher  
levels than do other students.

The purpose of S.B. 876 is to expand the eligibility for NBC  
support and is a bonus to University of Hawai'i teacher  
educators. The rationale for this is clearly stated in the  
bill itself, so I will not restate it here.

This small change in the law will cost the state very  
little, but it has potential to have a profound impact on  
teacher education in Hawai'i. We currently have one new  
faculty member preparing for national board certification.  
We do not expect that many faculty will seek national board  
certification, but the more that do, the better it will be  
for our teacher education programs.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support  
of S.B. 876.

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