



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Education and  
House Committee on Labor and Public Employment

March 14, 2008, 2:00 pm, Room 309

By  
Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor  
Presented by  
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### **SB 2663, SD2: Related to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board**

Chairs Takumi and Sonson, Vice Chairs Berg and Nakasone, and Members of the Committees:

This past year, as we have sought to study the teacher workforce in our state, we have discovered a critical need for better connected data systems. SB 2663, SD2 contains language addressing this need to share data between and among the institutions of higher education in the state, the Department of Education (DOE), and the Teacher Standards Board (HTSB). Only by being able to link data across these sectors will we be able to answer some of the question legislators and the general public have been asking us about the workforce patterns of our teachers.

We believe a high priority should be given to the establishment of a teacher data warehouse that will provide the necessary information to track and study our production of teacher candidates and the state's teacher workforce capacity. Such a data warehouse could better serve State policy makers, all teacher preparation institutions in Hawai'i, the DOE and the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. Models of such data systems exist in other states and have demonstrated their power in effectively providing data for policy development and decision making.

In addition, we support adding clarity to the recommendation and selection process for members of the HTSB.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.