



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education and Housing
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Conference Room 225

Written Testimony
by
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SB 2346: RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

UH Mānoa and the College of Education supports the concept of SB 2346, but request amendments to Section 302A-803, as contained in SB 2591 (the HTSB Omnibus bill), be used instead to replace the text in this bill. The language in the HTSB Omnibus bill is consistent with the recommended language provided by the working group convened pursuant to Act 2, Special Session 2009.

The proposed legislation reflects the recommendations submitted by the working group specified in Act 2, SSLH 2009 (Part II, Section 9). The Act 2 legislation required the Dean of the College of Education at UH Mānoa to call together a working group composed of representatives from P-20, the Department of Education, the HTSB, the HSTA, and DCCA as well as a Milken awardee to consider licensing rules and their impact on teacher workforce needs.

One of the problems the working group identified was that teacher candidates had to wait to receive their licenses until the HTSB Board met and approved the issuance. The working group considered delegation of authority language used by the DCCA to approve routine license applications. The working group adopted parallel language as provided by the DCCA representative to the working group. This is the language that appears in SB 2591 (Omnibus Bill).

We urge the legislature to approve the recommended language to improve the efficiency of the processing and issuance of teacher licenses.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.