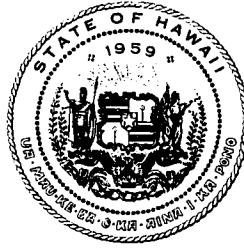


STATE OF HAWAII
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DEPT. COMM. NO. 2

September 4, 2002

The Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 003
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit to you a copy of our report, *Audit of the Department of Education's Comprehensive Student Support System*.

This audit assessed the Department of Education's implementation of the Comprehensive Student Support System (CSSS). We found the department's hasty implementation of CSSS results in a system that lacks accountability and experiences difficulties in implementation. We recommended the department reexamine whether the Student Support Services Branch can effectively and efficiently oversee the implementation of CSSS, and improve the implementation, staffing and accountability of CSSS.

We hope that the report will assist you in reviewing the issues examined. The report will be available at our website, www.state.hi.us/auditor, and released to the public and press on Thursday, September 5, 2002.

Sincerely,

Marion M. Higa
State Auditor

Enclosure

v c: Paul Kawaguchi, Senate Clerk