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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, since July 2002,  
3 the Hawaii teacher standards board has been licensing teachers  
4 and approving teacher preparation programs. The Hawaii teacher  
5 standards board has worked in collaboration with teacher  
6 preparation programs, schools, agencies, and the department of  
7 education to improve the quantity and quality of teachers in the  
8 state, as well as the quantity and quality of necessary and  
9 relevant data that is accessible to all parties.

10 In 2007, the confirmation process for nominations to the  
11 Hawaii teacher standards board became an issue. Questions  
12 regarding the appropriate entities to make recommendations to  
13 the governor under the law and specifying or clarifying those  
14 constituencies to be represented, including their size, require  
15 the legislature's attention to ensure effective operations of  
16 the Hawaii teacher standards board through proper representation  
17 of interested parties. Efforts to address the process have been



1 undertaken through a collaborative effort by the interested  
2 parties, including the Hawaii teacher standards board, to refine  
3 the current system.

4 The purpose of this Act is to make necessary changes to the  
5 membership and nomination process for, provide necessary funding  
6 for increased information accessibility for, and increase  
7 accountability of the Hawaii teacher standards board.

8 PART II

9 SECTION 2. The purpose of this part is to:

- 10 (1) Increase the number of teaching professionals on the  
11 Hawaii teacher standards board;
- 12 (2) Define "teachers regularly engaged in teaching"; and
- 13 (3) Clarify those organizations that may nominate  
14 candidates for membership on the Hawaii teacher  
15 standards board.

16 SECTION 3. Section 302A-801, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17 amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

18 "(a) There is established the Hawaii teacher standards  
19 board, which shall be placed within the department for  
20 administrative purposes only. The board shall consist of  
21 thirteen members, including not [~~less~~] fewer than [~~six~~] seven  
22 licensed teachers regularly engaged in teaching, three



1 educational officers, the chairperson of the board of education  
2 or the chairperson's designee, the superintendent or the  
3 superintendent's designee, a representative of independent  
4 schools, and the dean of the University of Hawaii college of  
5 education or the dean's designee; provided that the dean's  
6 designee shall be chosen from the member institutions of the  
7 teacher education coordinating committee established under  
8 section [†]304A-1202[†]. For purposes of this subsection,  
9 "teachers regularly engaged in teaching" means teachers, school  
10 counselors, or school librarians who are not assigned the duties  
11 of a school administrator.

12 (b) Except for the chairperson of the board of education,  
13 the superintendent, and the dean of the college of education,  
14 the governor shall appoint the members of the board pursuant to  
15 section 26-34, from a list of qualified nominees submitted to  
16 the governor by [~~the departments, agencies, and organizations~~  
17 ~~representative of the constituencies of the board.~~]:

18 (1) The exclusive representative for public school  
19 teachers;

20 (2) The exclusive representative for public school  
21 administrators;



1 (3) Any state chapter of a national professional  
2 organization that represents teachers or school  
3 administrators; and

4 (4) The Hawaii Association of Independent Schools for the  
5 private school teachers.

6 To the extent possible, the board membership shall reflect  
7 representation of elementary and secondary school personnel from  
8 [all islands.] Oahu and the neighbor islands approximating the  
9 proportion of teachers and administrators that work in these  
10 areas. The teacher members of the Hawaii teacher standards  
11 board shall hold licenses representative of the range of subject  
12 matter and levels, elementary, middle, and high school, taught  
13 in public schools. The school administrator members of the  
14 Hawaii teacher standards board shall be administrators assigned  
15 to elementary, middle, and high schools."

16 PART III

17 SECTION 4. Over the past several years, the board has been  
18 developing an electronic licensing system that has the  
19 capability of interfacing with public and private Hawaii teacher  
20 education institutions and the department of education to share  
21 information about licensed teachers. The system also has the  
22 capacity to receive data from these same institutions and



1 agencies in a new way that expedites operations, as well as  
2 avoids the need for duplicative collection of data by multiple  
3 institutions and agencies. This sharing of information will  
4 enable all parties to expedite the performance of their duties  
5 and responsibilities.

6 The data-sharing effort has three facets:

7 (1) Technology;

8 (2) Functionality; and

9 (3) Project management and coordination.

10 The Hawaii teacher standards board and partner agencies are  
11 directed to determine a mutually acceptable data transfer method  
12 for the data to be exchanged.

13 The legislature further finds that, over the next several  
14 months, the participating organizations will work to agree on  
15 the list of transactions that each will be prepared to service  
16 and originate. These transactions shall include all information  
17 that each participating institution or agency, including the  
18 department of education, stores in its automated system that may  
19 support teacher licensing, re-licensing, teacher education, and  
20 hiring, including but not limited to license information for any  
21 current licensees, license application information for any  
22 applicant, state-approved teacher education program completer



1 information, university course completion information for any  
2 licensee, higher education degree information, teacher  
3 employment and work site information, teacher termination,  
4 resignation, retirement, and leave status.

5 The purpose of this part, based on the support of the  
6 teacher education coordinating committee, is to authorize the  
7 Hawaii teacher standards board to coordinate an effort to create  
8 a network incorporating the teacher education institutions and  
9 the department of education to support the free interchange of  
10 information valuable to all of the participating organizations.  
11 Further, it is the purpose of this part to provide funds to  
12 achieve this interchange.

13 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for  
16 the purposes of this part; provided that:

17 (1) An assessment of available internal resources and  
18 additional resources required shall be used to  
19 determine the funding needed to implement this part;  
20 and

21 (2) In consultation with the participating organizations,  
22 the Hawaii teacher standards board shall use and



1 disburse the funds to the network partners in a manner  
2 that responds to the organizations' needs and  
3 circumstances while aiming to meet the purposes of  
4 this part.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
6 teacher standards board for the purposes of this part.

7 PART IV

8 SECTION 6. The purpose of this part is to increase  
9 accountability and expand the scope of the information provided  
10 by the Hawaii teacher standards board to the legislature and the  
11 governor to include information on income and expenditures and  
12 to require a summary report with data from the previous five  
13 years of the Hawaii teacher standards board's accomplishments  
14 and objectives, efforts to improve and maintain teacher quality,  
15 and efforts to keep its operations responsive and efficient.

16 SECTION 7. Section 302A-803, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

18 "(a) In addition to establishing standards for the  
19 issuance and renewal of licenses and any other powers and duties  
20 authorized by law, the board's powers shall also include:

21 (1) Setting and administering its own budget;



- 1 (2) Adopting, amending, or repealing the rules of the  
2 board in accordance with chapter 91;
- 3 (3) Receiving grants or donations from private  
4 foundations, and state and federal funds;
- 5 (4) Submitting an annual report to the governor and the  
6 legislature on the board's operations, including  
7 income and expenditures, and [~~from the 2007-2008~~  
8 ~~school year, submitting~~] a summary report [every] with  
9 data from the previous five years of the board's  
10 accomplishment of objectives, efforts to improve or  
11 maintain teacher quality, and efforts to keep its  
12 operations responsive and efficient;
- 13 (5) Conducting a cyclical review of standards and  
14 suggesting revisions for their improvement;
- 15 (6) Establishing licensing fees in accordance with chapter  
16 91, including the collection of fees by means of  
17 mandatory payroll deductions, which shall subsequently  
18 be deposited into the state treasury and credited to  
19 the Hawaii teacher standards board special fund;
- 20 (7) Establishing penalties in accordance with chapter 91;
- 21 (8) Issuing, renewing, revoking, suspending, and  
22 reinstating licenses;





- 1 (9) Reviewing reports from the department on individuals  
2 hired on an emergency basis;
- 3 (10) Applying licensing standards on a case-by-case basis  
4 and conducting licensing evaluations;
- 5 (11) Preparing and disseminating teacher licensing  
6 information to schools and operational personnel;
- 7 (12) Approving teacher preparation programs;
- 8 (13) Administering reciprocity agreements with other states  
9 relative to licensing;
- 10 (14) Conducting research and development on teacher  
11 licensure systems, beginning teacher programs, the  
12 assessment of teaching skills, and other related  
13 topics;
- 14 (15) Participating in efforts relating to teacher quality  
15 issues, conducting professional development related to  
16 the board's standards, and promotion of high teacher  
17 standards and accomplished teaching; and
- 18 (16) Adopting applicable rules and procedures."

19 PART V

20 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
21 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
2 provided that section 5 shall take effect on July 1, 2008;  
3 provided further that the amendments made to section  
4 302A-803(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, in section 7 of this Act,  
5 shall not be repealed when that section is reenacted on July 1,  
6 2009, pursuant to section 4 of Act 263, Session Laws of Hawaii  
7 2007.



**Report Title:**

Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

**Description:**

Making clarifying changes to the membership and nomination process of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. Appropriates funds for HTSB to coordinate an effort to create a network incorporating the teacher education institutions and the Department of Education to support the free interchange of information valuable to all participating organizations. Expands the scope of information provided by HTSB in its annual report and summary report to the Governor and Legislature.  
(SB2663 HD1)

