
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD.

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

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PART I

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

In 2007, the confirmation process for nominations to the Hawaii teacher standards board became an issue. Questions regarding the appropriate entities to make recommendations to the governor under the law and specifying or clarifying those constituencies to be represented, including their size, require the legislature's attention to ensure effective operations of the Hawaii teacher standards board through proper representation of interested parties. Efforts to refine the current system



1 have been undertaken through a collaborative effort by the
2 interested parties, including the Hawaii teacher standards
3 board.

4 Furthermore, because the department has been facing a
5 shortage of approximately sixteen hundred teachers each year
6 over the past several years, it has become imperative that the
7 Hawaii teacher standards board consider ways to expand the pool
8 of qualified teachers. Adding a teacher on the board who has
9 become a teacher through a nontraditional program can add
10 perspective to the deliberations of the board as they consider
11 licensure qualifications.

12 The purpose of this Act is to make necessary changes to the
13 membership and nomination process for, provide for increased
14 information accessibility for, and increase the accountability
15 of the Hawaii teacher standards board.

16 **PART II**

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

- 18 (1) Increase the number of teaching professionals on the
19 Hawaii teacher standards board;
20 (2) Define "teachers regularly engaged in teaching"; and



1 (3) Clarify those organizations that may nominate
2 candidates for membership on the Hawaii teacher
3 standards board.

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

6 "(a) There is established the Hawaii teacher standards
7 board, which shall be placed within the department for
8 administrative purposes only. The board shall consist of
9 [~~thirteen~~] fourteen members, including not [~~less~~] fewer than
10 [~~six~~] seven licensed teachers regularly engaged in teaching, at
11 least one of which has completed a nontraditional teacher
12 education program, three educational officers, the chairperson
13 of the board of education or the chairperson's designee, the
14 superintendent or the superintendent's designee, a
15 representative of independent schools, and the dean of the
16 University of Hawaii college of education or the dean's
17 designee; provided that the dean's designee shall be chosen from
18 the member institutions of the teacher education coordinating
19 committee established under section [+]304A-1202[+]. For
20 purposes of this section, "teachers regularly engaged in
21 teaching" means teachers, school counselors, or school



1 librarians who are not assigned the duties of a school
2 administrator.

3 (b) Except for the chairperson of the board of education,
4 the superintendent, and the dean of the college of education,
5 the governor shall appoint the members of the board pursuant to
6 section 26-34, from a list of qualified nominees submitted to
7 the governor by [~~the departments, agencies, and organizations~~
8 ~~representative of the constituencies of the board.~~];

9 (1) The exclusive representative for public school
10 teachers;

11 (2) The exclusive representative for public school
12 administrators;

13 (3) Any state chapter of a national professional
14 organization that represents teachers or school
15 administrators; and

16 (4) The Hawaii Association of Independent Schools for
17 private school teachers.

18 To the extent possible, the board membership shall reflect
19 representation of elementary and secondary school personnel from
20 [~~all islands.~~] Oahu and the neighbor islands approximating the
21 proportion of teachers and administrators who work in these
22 areas. The teacher members of the Hawaii teacher standards



1 board shall hold licenses representative of the range of subject
2 matter and levels (elementary, middle, and high school) taught
3 in public schools. The school administrator members of the
4 Hawaii teacher standards board shall be administrators assigned
5 to elementary, middle, and high schools."

6 PART III

7 SECTION 4. Over the past several years, the Hawaii teacher
8 standards board has been developing an electronic licensing
9 system that has the capability of interfacing with public and
10 private Hawaii teacher education institutions and the department
11 of education to share information about licensed teachers. The
12 system also has the capacity to receive data from these same
13 institutions and agencies in a new way that expedites
14 operations, as well as avoids the need for duplicative
15 collection of data by multiple institutions and agencies. This
16 sharing of information will enable all parties to expedite the
17 performance of their duties and responsibilities.

18 The data-sharing effort has three facets:

- 19 (1) Technology;
- 20 (2) Functionality; and
- 21 (3) Project management and coordination.



1 The Hawaii teacher standards board and partner agencies are
2 directed to determine a mutually acceptable data transfer method
3 for the data to be exchanged.

4 The legislature further finds that, over the next several
5 months, the participating organizations will work to agree on
6 the list of transactions that each will be prepared to service
7 and originate. These transactions shall include all information
8 that each participating institution or agency, including the
9 department of education, stores in its automated system that may
10 support teacher licensing, re-licensing, teacher education, and
11 hiring, including but not limited to license information for any
12 current licensees, license application information for any
13 applicant, state-approved teacher education program completer
14 information, university course completion information for any
15 licensee, higher education degree information, teacher
16 employment and work site information, and teacher termination,
17 resignation, retirement, and leave status.

18 The purpose of this part, based on the support of the
19 teacher education coordinating committee, is to authorize the
20 Hawaii teacher standards board to coordinate an effort to create
21 a network incorporating the teacher education institutions and



1 the department of education to support the free interchange of
2 information valuable to all of the participating organizations.

3 **PART IV**

4 SECTION 5. The purpose of this part is to increase
5 accountability and expand the scope of the information provided
6 by the Hawaii teacher standards board to the legislature and the
7 governor to include information on income and expenditures and
8 to require a summary report with data from the previous five
9 years of the Hawaii teacher standards board's accomplishments
10 and objectives, efforts to improve and maintain teacher quality,
11 and efforts to keep its operations responsive and efficient.

12 SECTION 6. Section 302A-803, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

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

- 17 (1) Setting and administering its own budget;
- 18 (2) Adopting, amending, or repealing the rules of the
19 board in accordance with chapter 91;
- 20 (3) Receiving grants or donations from private
21 foundations, and state and federal funds;



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



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

15 **PART V**

16 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
19 provided that the amendments made to section 302A-803(a), Hawaii
20 Revised Statutes, in section 6 of this Act, shall not be
21 repealed when that section is reenacted on July 1, 2009,
22 pursuant to section 4 of Act 263, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007.



Report Title:

Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Description:

Making clarifying changes to the membership and nomination process of the Hawaii teacher standards board. Authorizes the Hawaii teacher standards board 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 the Hawaii teacher standards board in its annual report and summary report to the governor and legislature. (CD1)

