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## TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: HB 3266 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD.

February 6, 2008

ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports HB 3266, requiring the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to adopt rules necessary to ensure that a license to teach is not issued or renewed or, if a license has been issued, that it is suspended or revoked if the person holding it is convicted of a crime that poses a risk to the health, safety, or well-being of children.

The Association does not have a problem with suspending, revoking or not reissuing or renewing a teacher's license if a teacher has been found guilty of perpetrating criminal acts against a minor. Schools should be a safe haven for students. This bill will help protect the health and safety of our students.

We urge the committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.