

Date of Hearing: March 14, 2008

Committees: House Education and Labor
& Public Employment

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: HCR 123, Requesting a study on the appropriate accountability structure for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Purpose: To request a study on the appropriate accountability structure for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Department's Position: Although the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board (HTSB) is administratively attached to the Department of Education (Department), it has no oversight over HTSB. The Department supports keeping HTSB autonomous.

The issue of commissioning an independent study that would utilize the model of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs comes under the purview of HTSB and, as such, we defer to HTSB for comment.



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD
650 Waiwai Road, Suite 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: HCR 123 Requesting a study on the appropriate accountability structure for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Friday, March 14, 2008

DR. JONATHAN GILLENLINE, CHAIRPERSON
Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Chairman Takumi and Members of the Committee:

At our meeting this week the members of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board discussed the contents of HCR 123 Requesting a study on the appropriate accountability structure for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. It is clear that at the core of this resolution is a presumption that the DCCA model is correct.

We believe that there are key differences between licensing and licensing-related functions in the teaching profession as compared with those of other professions and occupations. For this reason, we believe that any study to recommend an appropriate accountability structure must also study how other states manage teacher certification/licensure and how other states manage reviews of programs that prepare teachers for certification/licensure. A reasonable approach for the study sought in HCR 123 would not limit itself to one model from the outset by assuming that the DCCA model is the best or most effective model for teachers.

For this reason, we ask that you amend lines 35-43 on page 2 and lines 1-2 on page 3 to read as follows:

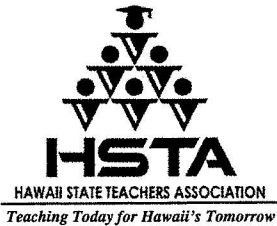
BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board is requested to commission an independent study that will [utilize] review the models of administratively attached boards used in other states with similar responsibilities for licensing of teachers and other school personnel and program approval for institutions that prepare teachers and other school personnel and compare those models with the model of the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs for administratively attached boards and determine the statutory amendments needed for [this] an appropriate model to be in place. This may be a model between the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board and the Department of Education, or [if instead] between the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board ~~should be transferred to~~ and the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, or between the Hawaii Teacher

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Testimony on HCR 123
Page 2 of 2

Standards Board and another agency, so that it te conforms with this the model identified as providing the most accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness; and ...

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 • Fax: (808) 839-7106 • Web: www.hsta.org

Roger K. Takabayashi
President

Wil Okabe
Vice President

Karolyn Mossman
Secretary-Treasurer

Mike McCartney
Executive Director

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION**

**RE: HCR 123 – REQUESTING A STUDY ON THE APPROPRIATE
ACCOUNTABILITY STRUCTURE FOR THE HAWAII TEACHER
STANDARD BOARD.**

March 14, 2008

**ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association strongly supports HCR 123, which requests a study on the appropriate accountability structure for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB).

The Association has received a high volume of concerns regarding the HTSB's handling of teacher licensing. Because the State continues to find it difficult to recruit and retain teachers, we believe the study requested in HCR 123 will provide much-needed direction to improve the accountability of the HTSB.

We strongly urge the committee to pass this concurrent resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.