

Date of Hearing: March 25, 2008

Committee: House Judiciary

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: S.B. 2080, SD 2, HD1 (HSCR1284-08), Relating to teacher licensure

Purpose: To require the Hawaii teacher standards board to revoke a teacher's license when the teacher has been convicted of certain sexual offenses against minors.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (Department) supports S.B. 2080, SD 2, HD 1 (HSCR1284) which requires the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) to revoke a teacher's license when the teacher has been convicted of certain sexual offenses against a minor. The safety of our students is paramount. It should be noted that HTSB is currently incorporating the revocation of teacher licenses based on convictions of sexual/other offenses into its administrative rules, making statutory changes unnecessary if the new rules are adopted before this proposal can be enacted.

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