

Date of Hearing: February 22, 2008

Committee: Senate Judiciary and Labor

Department: Education

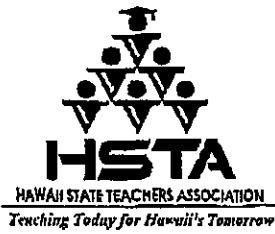
Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: S.B. 2080, SD 1 (SSCR2145), 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 supports S.B. 2080, SD1 (SSCR2145) 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 Department supports the technical amendments made to S.B. 2080, SD 1 (SSCR2145).

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 their administrative rules, making statutory changes unnecessary if the new rules are adopted before this proposal can be enacted.



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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY AND LABOR**

RE: SB 2080, SD1 – RELATING TO TEACHER LICENSURE.

February 22, 2008

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

Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB 2080, SD1.

The Association does not have a problem with the revocation of a teacher's license if a teacher is convicted of criminal acts towards a minor. Schools should be a safe haven for students; this bill will enhance the health and safety of our students.

We urge the committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.