

Date of Hearing: February 4, 2008

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: S.B. No. 2222, Relating to Education

Purpose: Appropriates funds for incorporating peace education in the current public school curriculum, including funding for counselor training, expansion of the peer education program, and the hiring of additional substance abuse counselors.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (Department) does not support this Bill and believes at this time that the Bill may not be necessary. The Department currently provides a rigor of study in peace education that is developmentally appropriate in scope and sequence for all students grades K through 12 through the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards for Health Education and Social Studies. Because of these current efforts by the Board of Education and the Department, we believe, at this time, that the Bill may not be necessary.