

Date: 02/11/2008

Committee: Senate Energy and
Environment; Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2231 RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds to replace all incandescent lighting with compact fluorescent lighting in public schools.

Department's Position: The Department of Education supports SB 2231, which promotes energy efficiency through the use of compact fluorescent light bulbs. However, we believe we can achieve this result without legislation through our existing repair and maintenance budget. The Department has already committed to switching from incandescent light bulbs to compact fluorescent light bulbs in our school facilities. On July 1, 2007 we began issuing Energy Star qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs to schools requesting replacement light bulbs. So over time, through attrition, incandescent light bulbs will be replaced by compact fluorescent light bulbs except for specialty light bulbs such as those located in refrigerators and ovens. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.