



LATE

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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT & EDUCATION**

RE: SB 2232 – RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

February 11, 2008

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

Chairs Menor, Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports the intent of SB 2232.

As we are growing and becoming a “greener” state, the Association believes that this measure will assist students in learning the importance of recycling to keep our land “green”.

We do have a concern about how this appropriation could affect the Weighted Student Formula (WSF). Would the fund be a separate fund specifically for the purpose it is intended? Or, will it be an addition to the WSF pool; in which case, the money will be dispersed for use as the principal sees fit. If it is the latter, we would suggest that within this bill a request be made of the DOE to create categories of funds corresponding to the areas of need within the WSF.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

To: Representative Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Representative Jill N. Tokuda, Vice- chair
Committee on Education

Representative Ron Menor, Chair
Representative Gary L. Hooser, Vice- chair
Committee on Energy and Environment

From: Angelica Crimmins

Date: February 10, 2008

Subject: Support of S.B. NO. 2232

As a student at Kalaheo High School, I strongly support S.B. NO. 2232, which would establish a recycling program and recycling bins on every public school campus in the state of Hawaii.

Hawaii, being a chain of small islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, has a limited amount of landfill space. Recycling one ton of aluminum, one ton of plastic and one ton of glass saves 42 cubic yards of landfill space. Public schools use up to 31,000 cubic yards of landfill space every month costing the state \$186,000 each month. Futuristically speaking, the state would save a large sum of money should they decide to invest in recycling programs and bins for every public school; money that could be used elsewhere. Not only would the state save, but Hawaii taxpayers and public schools would also.

Americans use 4 million plastic bottles every hour and only one out of four is recycled. With recycling bins and programs on public school campuses, the students of Hawaii will recognize the importance of recycling and learn to respect our aina.

The establishment of recycling programs and recycling bins on all Hawaii public school campuses would benefit the state and its funds, public schools and its students, and most importantly the environment we live in. I encourage the committee to pass S.B. NO 2232. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Good Afternoon, Senators. My name is Maile- Jean Lopez and I am a Sophomore at Waipahu High School. I am testifying on senate bill number 2232, School recycling. I support this Bill for the following reasons. Our world today is very eco-conscience, by providing the money to place recycling bins in the school it will help make the students, who are the people of tomorrow, become eco-conscience too. At Waipahu High School there are many clubs and organizations that sell canned and bottled drinks after-school to raise money. When these clubs and organizations buy these drinks they have to pay the HI 5 cents bottle deposit on each drink. Thus by not having recycling bins those clubs and organizations are losing money because the students just throw the can or bottle in the regular trash can. The people who are making money by students throwing their cans and bottles in the regular trash can are the less fortunate people who come on to our campus after-school and dig through out trash cans to find the HI 5 cents cans and bottle. Therefore, by approving this bill it will allow schools to have the money to put recycling bins in their schools. The money that is collected by collecting the HI 5 cents cans and bottle cans be used towards the students and or the school.

Thank you for your time.