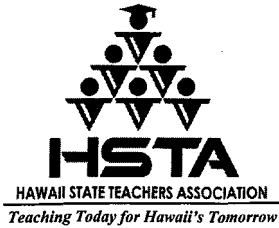


LATE



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Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION

RE: SB 2657 – RELATING TO TEACHERS

January 30, 2008

ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB 2657. We appreciate the Legislature's acknowledgement of the teacher shortage which currently exists. We believe this bill will assist in the state's efforts to recruit and retain teachers by allowing assistance for the purchase of a home. HSTA has taken up teacher housing as a priority to assist in the area of recruitment and retention of our teachers. Although, we are unsure of what will work we believe this is one avenue to pursue.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify.