

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2670

January 28, 2008

RELATING TO EDUCATION

Senate Bill No. 2670 creates a School Closure or Consolidation Task Force to conduct a cost-benefit analysis to determine the expected cost savings, to recommend procedures, and to provide student compensation options for the closure or consolidation of schools. The Task Force shall consist of five members appointed by the Superintendent of Education and is established within the Department of Education.

We support this bill.

The Department of Budget and Finance believes that an ongoing and realistic review of school facility needs is necessary and that it is very difficult to close a school. The School Closure or Consolidation Task Force will provide a mechanism to determine the cost benefits of school closures or consolidations. This will allow the State to make more efficient use of our resources.

LATE TESTIMONY