

Date of Hearing: Friday, February 8, 2008

Committee: Senate Committee on Education

Board: Education

Person Testifying: Donna Ikeda, Chairperson, Board of Education

Title of Bill: S.B. No. 2682, Making an Appropriation for the Establishment of Board of Education Analyst Positions

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) permanent analyst positions in the Board of Education (Board) to staff and support the budgetary and school-community-related responsibilities of the Board.

Board's Position: Chairperson Sakamoto, Vice Chairperson Tokuda, and members of the Senate Committee on Education, thank you for this opportunity to testify in **support** of S.B. No. 2682.

Board review and approval of the Department of Education and Hawaii State Public Library System budgets is a primary responsibility of the Board. In addition, under the Reinventing Education Act of 2004, the Board is required to adopt on an annual basis, a Weighted Student Formula (WSF) for the allocation of moneys to public schools. This requirement has increased the corresponding responsibilities and staff resource needs of the Board in fulfilling its fiscal responsibilities and adopting a WSF for public schools.

In recent years, the Board's policymaking responsibilities have expanded to include support for the establishment and implementation of a School Community Council (SCC) in each school. Increased staff support will assist the Board in establishing key partnerships and maintaining clear communications with school-communities to support SCC decision making and participation in schools.

For these reasons, the Board requests your **support** for S.B. No. 2682. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.