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LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: SB 2685 – RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

January 28, 2008

ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB 2685 which will aid schools in energy conservation and acquiring alternative energy. Currently the Department of Education allocates to individual schools a specific amount of monies to cover electricity costs. Once schools have disbursed the allocation, the remainder of electricity costs falls upon the school.

We believe giving schools the tools to conserve energy and find other ways to provide electricity would be beneficial financially and academically. The incentive to conserve energy and possibly receive fifty percent of the monies acquired from the cost savings will booster the school's ability to provide a quality public education to all students.

We urge the committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.