

LATE TESTIMONY

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. 2693

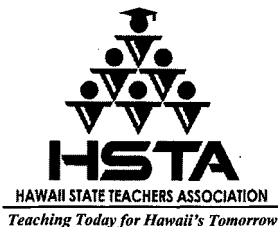
January 30, 2008

RELATING TO TEACHER HOUSING

Senate Bill No. 2693 establishes an Educator's Affordable Housing Program to provide deferred-interest second mortgages to Hawaii public school teachers and other Department of Education staff. This bill also establishes an Educator's Second Mortgage Revolving Trust Fund for the deposit of legislative appropriations, public and private contributions, earned interest, and funds from other sources. The proposed fund would be used to carry out the purposes of the Educator's Affordable Housing Program.

As a matter of general policy, this department does not support the creation of any special or revolving fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Special or revolving funds should: 1) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program; 2) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 3) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. It is difficult to determine whether the proposed fund meets any of the above criteria.

LATE



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION

RE: SB 2693 – RELATING TO TEACHER HOUSING.

January 30, 2008

ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB 2693. 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 establishing an affordable housing program for public school teachers and a second mortgage revolving fund. 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.