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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TAXATION**

RE: S.B. 2829 - RELATING TO TAXATION

February 7, 2008

**ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Chair Fukunaga and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association is in strong support of the purposes and intent of S.B. 2829, Relating to Taxation.

The purpose of this measure is to adopt amendments to Hawaii tax laws to implement the streamlined sales and use tax agreement, and to designate a portion of the revenues collected to supplement appropriations for educational programs under the Department of Education.

Over the past four years, our organization has participated in briefings conducted by national leaders in the Streamlined and Sales and Use Tax project. We believe that joining other states in collecting tax revenues on out-of-state sales makes good sense for the State of Hawaii.

We endorse using the states' collective efforts and modern technology to solve the long-standing problem of lost tax revenues arising from the growing influence of e-commerce on the economy, and thank the Senate majority for using this measure to provide enhanced financial support for Hawaii's public schools.