

L A T E

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
TAXATION, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HOUSING  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 2862

February 2, 2008

RELATING TO EDUCATION

Senate Bill No. 2862 establishes the Science Technology and Education special fund to provide additional resources and expertise to stimulate student interest and achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The fund would generate revenues through legislative appropriations, private contributions, and moneys from other sources. The bill proposes to deposit \$1,402,230 in general funds from Act 111, SLH 2007, into the Science Technology and Education special fund for expenditure. Act 111 appropriated \$1,402,230 in general funds to establish the Fostering Inspiration and Relevance through Science and Technology Pre-Academy program at the University of Hawaii.

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 Sections 37-52.3 and 37-53.4 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 fund will be self-sustaining.