

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. 3252

February 4, 2008

RELATING TO TEACHERS

Senate Bill No. 3252 is intended to address the ongoing teacher shortage problem through various programs and incentives. This bill, among other provisions, establishes a Rehabilitative and Related Services Graduate School Loan Program Special Fund for the purpose of providing financial support to individuals who complete graduate programs in physical and occupational therapy, speech pathology, and school psychology and agree to work for the State for at least three years.

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. Because the proposed fund receives legislative appropriations, it is not self-sustaining and does not meet the criteria for a special fund.



## KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Education  
Hearing Date: Monday, February 4, 2008  
1:15 p.m. – Conference Room 225

By Walter Kahumoku, III  
Director, Teacher Education and Professional Development  
Kamehameha Schools

Monday, February 4, 2008

Re: SB 3252 Relating to Teachers

Good afternoon Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda and members of the Education Committee. My name is Walter Kahumoku and I am the Director of Teacher Education and Professional Development for Kamehameha Schools. Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 3252.

Kamehameha Schools applauds the legislature for its interest in improving the quality of teachers in Hawaii. We have been participating extensively in the Early Learning Education Task Force established by the legislature and strongly support, among other education initiatives, funding measures for charter schools. We are in support of the intent of SB 3252. We would additionally request that you consider broader community representation for the workforce strategic planning committee, additional funding for professional development schools and the induction pilot. We hope to be a continued participant in the dialog concerning teacher quality.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is a statewide educational system supported by a trust endowed by Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, whose mission is to improve the capability and well-being of Native Hawaiian children through education. We serve 5,400 K-12 students through campus programs on O'ahu, Hawai'i and Maui, and 1,317 three-and-four-year-olds at 31 preschool sites statewide. Last year, we provided \$4.4 million in scholarships to 850 keiki attending community preschools.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.