

Date of Hearing: March 25, 2009

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: H.R. 283 (H.C.R. 311), Online Grades and Homework

Purpose: Requests the department of education to make available an online student performance system for parents and guardians including, but not limited to student grades, homework assignments, and attendance records.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (Department) supports making available an online student performance system for parents and guardians that includes grades, homework assignments and attendance records. The Department concurs that parental involvement has a positive effect on student learning, attitudes and behaviors. The Department is implementing an online student performance system Parent Assist module within the eSIS student information system. However, the secondary gradebook component of eSIS scheduled for SY 2010-2011 must be completed prior to the installation of the Parent Assist module. In addition, there are network security access issues that need to be well designed along with possible network infrastructure upgrades to accommodate the increased load. Discussions with Hawaii State Teachers Association have also not yet been initiated. Therefore,

the Department recommends that the implementation date for the online student performance system be extended to SY 2011-2012.