

Date of Hearing: March 24, 2009

Committee: House Higher Education/Labor
& Public Employment

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: S.B. No. 1665, S.D. 2 (SSCR 692), Relating to Higher Education

Purpose: Enhances the workforce development capacity of Hawaii's
community colleges by establishing a skilled worker and business
development center to provide workforce training to meet the
rapidly evolving needs of both employers and employees;
Appropriates Reed Act funds.

Department's Position: The Department (DOE) supports S.B. No. 1665, S.D. 2
(SSCR 692) and recognizes the importance of developing a skilled
workforce for business sustainability. However, the DOE defers to
Hawaii's community colleges, the identified expending agency, as
to funding priority.