

SCR86

Date of Hearing: March 27, 2009

Committee: Senate Education and Housing

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: S.C.R. 086 (S.R. 52), Inventory of Textbooks

Purpose: Requesting the Department of Education to develop an inventory of all textbooks for all public schools.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (Department) supports the request to develop an inventory of all textbooks for all public schools. The Department agrees that purchasing books in mass would reduce costs. However, schools should still be allowed to purchase their own books based on the demographics and curricula needs of their students.

The Department will explore existing informational databases to see if modifications can be made to include information about the publication date of all textbooks currently in use, classification of textbooks in elementary, middle, and high school grade levels, adequacy of the inventory of books in relation to the number of students, and a list of recommended textbooks.

The Department supports the request to develop an inventory of all textbooks for all public schools as specified in S.C.R. 086 (S.R. 52).