

## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 5:23 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** elizabeth\_bauer@notes.k12.hi.us  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB1287 on 2/23/2010 4:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 2/23/2010 4:30:00 PM HB1287

Conference room: 308  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
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Submitted on: 2/23/2010

### Comments:

As a teacher, VEBA as enabled me to afford health insurance (until the recent pay hike by my provider HMSA). It already is financially difficult to maintain insurance, and without VEBA, would mean additional money from an already reduced paycheck (furloughs). VEBA did save money for my employer (D.O.E.), made for a dependable and healthy workforce in school, and helped to attract and retain teachers in the profession.

In addition, VEBA encourages a more competitive rate. With all of us lumped under ETUF, no competition is encouraged.

Please, I encourage you to hear the bill and schedule hearings on SB2797. We need to stop penalizing, and promote a healthy workforce.