

LATE TESTIMONY

Date: 03/17/2009

Committee: House Education
House Higher Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1129, SD1 (SSCR562) RELATING TO ATHLETIC TRAINERS.

Purpose of Bill: Requires athletic trainers to register with the department of commerce and consumer affairs. (SD1)

Department's Position: The Board of Education and the Department of Education support this bill. SD 1 reflects amendments to the original bill that remove the provisions relating to licensure of athletic trainers and replaces them with provisions relating to the registration of athletic trainers. This aligns the bill with provisions similar to the registration of occupational therapists. While the department agrees with this change, we recommend adding the following language to provide the same protections afforded occupational therapists under Chapter 457G, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS):

- Add language on civil penalty that addresses the fines of persons violating this chapter: "Any person violating any provisions of this chapter shall be fined a sum of not less than \$500 or more than \$10,000 for each violation, which sum shall be collected in a civil action brought by the attorney general or the director of the Office of Consumer Protection on behalf of the State."
- Add language on the meaning of registration: "A registration granted under this chapter shall mean that the person has met requirements that include minimum practice standards to provide protection to the public and is permitted to use the title and engage in the practice as an athletic trainer. In the granting of permission to engage in this profession, and consistent with Section 436B-2, the definition for 'license' is inclusive of a

registration issued under this chapter and, as such, an athletic trainer that holds a license."