

SB2256

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND HOUSING
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2256

February 3, 2010

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Senate Bill No. 2256: 1) authorizes the Department of Education to assess fees for parking in roadways and other areas under its jurisdiction; 2) establishes the Department of Education Parking Revolving Fund for deposit of parking fees, provided that the fees collected by a school principal shall be deposited to the school's non-appropriated local school fund account.

As a matter of general policy, this department does not support any special fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Special or revolving funds should: 1) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program; 2) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 3) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. It is difficult to determine whether the bill meets any of these criteria.

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Committee: Senate Committee on Education and
Housing

Person Testifying: Garrett Toguchi, Chairperson, Board of Education

Title of Bill: S.B. No. 2256, Relating to the Department of Education

Purpose of Bill: Authorizes the Department of Education to assess fees for parking on roadways and in parking areas under its jurisdiction, and to adopt administrative rules relating to the assessment and collection of fees for parking. Specifies that the fees collected shall be deposited into a newly-established Department of Education Parking Revolving Fund, provided that any parking fees assessed by schools shall be deposited into each respective school's nonappropriated local school fund account.

Board's Position: Chairperson Sakamoto, Vice Chairperson Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Education and Housing, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of S.B. No. 2256.

This bill would allow the Department of Education (DOE) to assess fees for parking on roadways and in parking areas under the DOE's jurisdiction. This bill would also authorize DOE to adopt administrative rules for the assessment and collection of fees for parking.

Under existing statutes and administrative rules, schools and the DOE are unable to assess fees for parking on school and other DOE property. This bill provides a means to generate an additional source of revenue to

benefit public education and public schools. Under the bill, any parking fees assessed by schools would be deposited to the credit of the respective school's nonappropriated local school fund account. Parking fees collected on non-school DOE areas would be deposited into a newly-created Department of Education Revolving Fund.

The Board notes that S.B. No. 2256 includes a provision that would enable DOE to contract with the Department of Accounting and General Services or a private entity to implement the parking provisions. This would provide DOE with the flexibility and ability to contract such services if it so chooses.

The Board believes that the assessment of parking fees on roadways and in parking areas under the DOE's jurisdiction will provide an additional source of revenue for public education. In these fiscally austere times, S.B. No. 2256 is particularly worthy of consideration to support efforts to mitigate the impact of budget reductions and restrictions on public education and schools.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. No. 2256.