

SB2567

Date: 02/08/2010

Committee: Senate Education and Housing

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2567 Relating to Education

Purpose of Bill: Requires the department of education (DOE) to use school-based curriculum to include teaching materials that are consistent with the federal government's Race to the Top fund selected criteria. Requires the DOE to report to the legislature recommendations for the establishment of consistent curricula and assessments and methods of optimizing economics of scale in the purchase of teaching materials for military students who are transitioning to Hawaii schools.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (DOE) supports SB 2567. The DOE, along with 48 other states and two territories, is committed to the adoption of the National Common Core Standards (NCCS) which is consistent with the federal government's Race to the Top fund criteria. Upon adoption of the NCCS by the Hawaii State Board of Education, the DOE will recommend the use of school-based curriculum which will include teaching materials that are aligned to the NCCS. Appropriate levels of funding to support school purchase of the teaching materials are requested.

The DOE will provide appropriate reports to the legislature. These reports will provide recommendations for the establishment of consistent curricula, assessments and methods of optimizing economies of scale in the purchase of teaching materials.