

**Date:** 02/19/2010

**Committee:** Senate Education and Housing

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn Matayoshi, Interim Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 2573 Relating to Education

**Purpose of Bill:** Requires principals to waive the modern history of hawaii requirement upon request by an out-of-state transfer student, including a military transfer student, who has taken and passed a different board-approved state history course, to enable the student to receive the board of education recognition diploma if the student meets all other criteria for the recognition diploma.

**Department's Position:** The Department of Education (Department) does not support this bill at this time. The Department already has a mechanism in place that allows out-of-state transfer students, including military transfer students, to have such a requirement for the Board of Education Recognition diploma waived. High school principals may waive such credit, after careful evaluation, and in consultation with respective complex and state staff. In a survey of high schools with a large number of military transfer or out-of-state students, there were only four requests for waiver of the Modern History of Hawaii requirement in lieu of the student's state history. All four requests were granted.