

SB2615

**Date:** 02/08/2010

**Committee:** Senate Education and Housing

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 2615 Relating to Education

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes and appropriates funds for an electronic book pilot program for an intermediate or middle school to be selected by the department of education.

**Department's Position:** The Department appreciates legislative support and funding for this bill. At this time the Department does not support the transition of hard cover textbooks into digital textbooks due to the following: lack of content materials available; copyright issues between publishers and distributors; majority of the digital textbooks are presently geared for college level; and start up costs for schools are prohibitive.