

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Committee: House Committees on Education,
and
Labor & Public Employment

Board: Education

Person Testifying: Garrett Toguchi, Chairperson, Board of Education

Title of Bill: S.B. No. 497, S.D. 1, Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards
Board

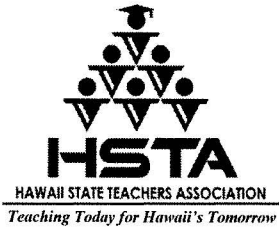
Purpose of Bill: Responds to the State Auditor's findings and recommendations by establishing a seven-member advisory committee to, among other things, provide oversight of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB); review and evaluate the progress of HTSB in meeting its statutory requirements; and establish criteria for qualifying, screening, and presenting candidates to the Governor for membership on HTSB. Authorizes HTSB to suspend its policies, rules, and standards when required by extenuating circumstances and determining how it collects license fees. Specifies that the Board of Education shall appoint the HTSB Executive Director.

Board's Position: Chairpersons Takumi and Rhoads, Vice Chairpersons Berg and Yamashita, and members of the House Committees on Education, and Labor & Public Employment, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to S.B. No. 497, S.D.1.

The Board of Education believes that the creation of an advisory committee as specified in the bill will create an unnecessary layer of government regulation and added expense to the teacher licensure process.

With respect to the provision authorizing HTSB to suspend its policies, rules, and standards when required by extenuating circumstances, the Board of Education has no position or comment on this provision at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street λ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 λ Fax: (808) 839-7106 λ Web: www.hsta.org

Roger K. Takabayashi
President

Wil Okabe
Vice President

Karolyn Mossman
Secretary-Treasurer

Mike McCartney
Executive Director

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT**

**RE: SB 497 SD 1 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS
BOARD.**

March 18, 2009

**ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) opposes SB 497 SD 1 in its current form, which establishes an advisory committee to provide oversight of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) and provides the governor with lists of nominees for appointment to the board.

The HTSB's main purpose is to establish and maintain licensing standards for teacher licensing in Hawaii, issue and renew licenses, and revoke licenses when necessary.

HSTA has several concerns and questions related to SB 497, SD 1 which is as follows:

- First and foremost, the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board is an independent board on which the teaching profession is represented. Adding an advisory committee as an oversight body violates the concept. Creating such an oversight body would mean that the board is no longer independent.
- An advisory committee adds to an already burdensome bureaucracy. Now the HTSB will have to be concerned with the advice of an advisory committee besides other concerns as listed above.
- Who will bear the cost of the committee? Will teachers be asked to bear the cost through paying a higher fee to be licensed?
- We question the fact that if the HTSB is a teacher licensing entity, then why are teachers not represented on the advisory committee by the exclusive teacher bargaining agent. The Association is called upon by a teacher for assistance when the HTSB is not responsive and therefore, we are aware of the areas of concerns. In this regard, The Association can be the most effective in advising the board.

What is of greater concern to teachers is the Legislative Auditor Report, which says that HTSB exceeded its authority to extend licenses beyond those granted by statute to licenses expiring in 2002 and 2003. The teachers whose licenses were extended met all the requirements imposed by the board. HSTA believes that these teachers should not be penalized because of the actions by the board or the board's failure to act. As a result of this, our priority now is to ensure that the extended licenses are valid. We suggest this measure be amended to ensure that the licenses of thousands of teachers remain valid.

HSTA would therefore recommend amending section 302A-805, using language included in SB 1308 SD 1. The suggested amendments would read as follows:

"§302A-805 Teachers; license required; renewals. (a) Beginning July 1, ~~[2002,]~~ 2010, all new and renewal licenses shall be issued by the board. No person shall serve as a half-time or full-time teacher in a public school without first having obtained a license from the board under this subpart. All licenses issued by the board shall be valid only for the fields specified on the licenses and shall be renewable every five years if the individual continues to:

- (1) Satisfy the board's licensing standards;
- (2) Show evidence of successful teaching in the previous five years; and
- (3) Satisfy the board's requirements for renewal of licenses.

(b) Teachers whose licenses expire on June 30, 2002, or June 30, 2003, shall be granted an automatic extension of ~~[two]~~ seven years.

(c) No person shall be issued a license or teach on an emergency basis in the public schools without having first paid the fees established by the board in accordance with chapter 91.

(d) Teachers whose licenses expire on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 1, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one year extension of these licenses."

In summary, we urge this committee to (1) eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee and (2) pass legislation to validate extended licenses.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD
650 Iwilei Road, Suite 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT**

RE: SB 497 SD1 Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

**DR. JONATHAN GILLENLINE, CHAIRPERSON
Hawaii Teacher Standards Board**

Chairman Takumi, Chairman Rhoads and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board does not support the creation of an advisory committee. We believe such a committee would be a duplication of effort and at a time when departments and agencies are facing drastic budget cuts, we can ill afford directing new resources to one more level of decision-makers.

The Board does, however, support the addition of a couple of new stakeholder groups to become members of the Board while also maintaining a reasonable number of members so that the Board's work remains manageable. To this end, we recommend the following amendments to SB 497 SD1:

1. Delete Sections 2, 3, and 4 of the bill.
2. Insert the following new Section 2 to replace the deleted sections above:

SECTION 2. Chapter 302A-801, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

§302A-801 Hawaii teacher standards board established. (a) There is established the Hawaii teacher standards board, which shall be placed within the department for administrative purposes only. The board shall consist of [~~thirteen~~] fifteen members, including not less than six licensed teachers regularly engaged in teaching, three educational officers, the chairperson of the board of education or the chairperson's designee, the superintendent of education or the superintendent's designee, a representative of the independent schools, [~~and~~] the dean of the University of Hawaii college of education or the dean's designee; provided that the dean's designee shall be chosen from the member institutions of the teacher education coordinating committee established under section 304A-

1202. Two additional members shall be appointed from among the following: 1) Hawaii Business Roundtable; 2) Hawaii P-20 Council; or 3) Workforce Development Council.

(b) Except for the chairperson of the board of education, the superintendent, and the dean of the college of education, the governor shall appoint the members of the board pursuant to section 26-34, from a list of qualified nominees submitted to the governor by the departments, agencies, and organizations representative of the constituencies of the board. To the extent possible, the board membership shall reflect representation of elementary and secondary school personnel from all islands.

(c) Appointed board members shall serve not more than three consecutive three-year terms~~;~~ ~~provided that the initial terms of the appointed members that commence after June 30, 2000, shall be staggered as follows:~~

- ~~(1) Three members to serve three-year terms;~~
- ~~(2) Three members to serve two-year terms; and~~
- ~~(3) One member to serve a one-year term].~~

(d) Board members shall receive no compensation. When board duties require that a board member take leave of the board member's duties as a state employee, the appropriate state department shall allow the board member to be placed on administrative leave with pay and shall provide substitutes, when necessary, to perform that board member's duties. Board members shall be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses incurred in the conduct of official board business.

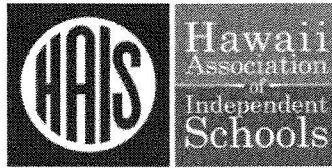
(e) The chairperson of the board shall be designated by the members of the board.

3. Renumber Section 5 of the bill to become Section 3.
4. Amend Item (d) in Section 5 (new Section 3) as follows:

(d) The board may employ an executive director, exempt from chapters 76 and 78 who shall be appointed by the board [of education pursuant to section 302A-(d)."

5. Renumber current Sections 6 through 11 to become new Sections 4-9 and delete any references to "Part I, Part II and Part III."

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



March 18, 2009
3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 309

TESTIMONY TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION AND
LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

RE: SB 497 SD1 – Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Dear Chairs Takumi and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Berg and Yamashita, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Robert Witt and I am executive director of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), which represents approximately 97 private and independent schools across our state and is an active member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB).

The Association supports the intent of Senate Bill 497, Senate Draft 1 – Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, which would establish an advisory committee that would be responsible for providing oversight of HTSB and reporting annually on the Board's operations to the Board of Education and the Legislature. In addition, HAIS would like to offer comments on the measure.

We imagine that an advisory committee for HTSB could, in addition to the main function of board oversight, serve the purpose of offering an objective perspective on the activities of the Board. One strategy for achieving this would be to balance the currently proposed composition of the Board with two or three more "outside" members – that is, non-educators, specifically individuals who are familiar with the licensing and credentialing processes of other professions, such as medicine, law and engineering.

HAIS believes that the oversight of professional standards and licensing of teachers is of the utmost importance and we would be pleased to engage in constructive dialogue with the Legislature to explore ways in which HTSB can increase its effectiveness, rigor and accountability.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

berg1-Ana Maria

From: Alan Isbell [writenow1@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2009 3:34 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: rtakabayashi@hsta.org; cchang@hsta.org
Subject: SB 497 SD1 Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

We encourage the committee to eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, we respectively request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

Amends HRS §302A-805 (b) to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [~~two~~] seven years," and

Adds a new section, HRS §302A-805 (d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

In making these requests, please understand that I, as we as the vast majority of teachers I represent as HSTA representative for Wailuku Elementary, have dutifully jumped through all of the hoops put before us for certification and licensing. Many have had the additional frustration of proving that they are a highly qualified teacher under the federal No Child Left Behind mandates. Most all of the Praxis testing, accreditation, professional development and so on have come at our own time and expense. So it comes as a crushing blow to find now that our license extensions have been put in jeopardy through no fault of our own, and in trusting the competency of the licensing agency.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 3:46 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: ridefaster@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Will Carlson
Organization: Individual
Address: 271 Kikipua St PO Box 2031 Kaunakakai, Hi
Phone: 553-5665
E-mail: ridefaster@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/17/2009

Comments:

Subject: SB 497 SD1 Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

We encourage the committee to eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, we respectively request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

Amends HRS §302A-805 (b) to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

Adds a new section, HRS §302A-805 (d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Jennifer Wilbur

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 3:21 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: dkeikoa@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Aoki
Organization: Individual
Address: PO Box 991 Kealakekua, HI 96750
Phone: 8959040
E-mail: dkeikoa@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/17/2009

Comments:

Subject: SB 497 SD1-Relating to the Hawaii State Teachers Standards Board Chairs Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Legislative Auditor stated that the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board exceeded their authority to extend licenses beyond those granted by statute to licenses expiring in 2002 and 2003. Teachers who had their licenses extended met all the requirements imposed by the board. We should not be penalized by the action of the Standards Board.

We respectfully request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

» Amends HRS Â§302A-805(b) to read: "Teachers who licenses expire on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

» Adds a new section, 302A-805(d): "Teachers whose licenses expire on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses." Adds a new section, 302A-805(d): "Teachers whose licenses expire on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

Thank you for keeping Hawaii's teachers teaching so our children can learn and the opportunity to testify.

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2009 8:51 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: Namamo96792@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shawn Chang
Organization: Department of Education
Address: 94-521 Farrington Hwy Waipahu, HI
Phone: 808-675-0335
E-mail: Namamo96792@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/18/2009

Comments:

Subject: SB 497 SD1-Relating to the Hawaii State Teachers Standards Board

House Committee on Education and Labor & Public Employment for SB497 SB1 Wednesday, March 18, 2009 Conference Room 309, State Capitol Time 03:00 p.m.

Chairs Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Legislative Auditor stated that the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board exceeded their authority to extend licenses beyond those granted by statute to licenses expiring in 2002 and 2003. Teachers who had their licenses extended met all the requirements imposed by the board. We should not be penalized by the action of the Standards Board.

We respectfully request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

» Amends HRS Â§302A-805(b) to read: "Teachers who licenses expire on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

» Adds a new section, 302A-805(d): "Teachers whose licenses expire on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses." Adds a new section, 302A-805(d): "Teachers whose licenses expire on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

Thank you for keeping Hawaii's teachers teaching so our children can learn and the opportunity to testify.

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2009 6:13 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: kumu@mail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carol Seielstad
Organization: HSTA
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kumu@mail.com
Submitted on: 3/18/2009

Comments:
Subject: SB 497 SD1 Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

We encourage the committee to eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, we respectively request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

Amends HRS §302A-805 (b) to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

Adds a new section, HRS §302A-805 (d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 6:04 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: SLaracuate@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Steve Laracuate
Organization: Individual
Address: 1080 Ala Napunani St.APT 204 Honolulu, HI 96818
Phone: 711-840-1014
E-mail: SLaracuate@msn.com
Submitted on: 3/17/2009

Comments:

Subject: SB 497 SD1-Relating to the Hawaii State Teachers Standards Board

House Committee on Education and Labor & Public Employment for SB497 SB1 Wednesday, March 18, 2009 Conference Room 309, State Capitol Time 03:00 p.m.

Aloha Chairs Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee!

I am a teacher who happens to be Deaf. I just received a certificate from the Superintendent congratulating me on my 20 years of service. I have enjoyed being a role model for students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing at the Hawaii Center for the Deaf and the Blind (HCDB). I believe I was the third Deaf person to be licensed as a teacher in the state of Hawaii.

When my principal made the announcement to the HCDB staff and students that I received the 20 year service certificate, they were concerned that I was going to retire. I assured them I would continue working with them as long as I am able to. I hope I will be able to continue my work because of your actions as well.

HCDB happens to be fortunate that half the teachers are Deaf. Please help HCDB maintain this high percentage of Deaf and Hard of Hearing teachers for HCDB Deaf and Hard of Hearing students.

I respectfully request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

» Amends HRS Â§302A-805(b) to read: "Teachers who licenses expire on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

» Adds a new section, 302A-805(d): "Teachers whose licenses expire on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses." Adds a new section, 302A-805(d): "Teachers whose licenses expire on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

Mahalo for keeping Hawaii's Deaf and Hard of Hearing teachers teaching so our Deaf and Hard of Hearing children can learn and for allowing my testimony.

Steve Laracuate

Proud Deaf 20 year veteran of the Hawaii DOE

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 9:02 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: honua@mac.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Terry Low
Organization: Individual
Address: 4762 Hauaala Rd. Kapaa, HI
Phone: 808 822-3790
E-mail: honua@mac.com
Submitted on: 3/17/2009

Comments:
Subject: SB 497 SD1 Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

We encourage the committee to eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, we respectively request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

Amends HRS §302A-805 (b) to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

Adds a new section, HRS §302A-805 (d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

Teachers who had valid Hawaiian teacher licenses in 2002 and 2003 were highly qualified. I support continuing professional development for all teachers, but there is no need to punish teachers for the problems the HTSB board had. Initial teacher certification programs are very demanding, which should help make the decision to oppose this legislation easier. Please support and respect Hawaii's highly qualified teachers.

Mahalo,
Terry Low

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 9:28 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: isi.nau@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Isi
Organization: Individual
Address: Mililani
Phone: 497-9612
E-mail: isi.nau@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/17/2009

Comments:

I would encourage the committee to eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, I respectfully request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

Amends HRS §302A-805 (b) to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

Adds a new section, HRS §302A-805 (d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

Thank you very much for your consideration on this matter. I do not feel teachers should be punished for doing all they were asked to do for relicensing.

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 10:14 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: barbrick@inix.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Barbara Nosaka
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: barbrick@inix.com
Submitted on: 3/17/2009

Comments:

Aloha !

We encourage the committee to eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, we respectfully request that SB 497 SD1 to be amended by adding language that: Amends HRH 302A-805(b) to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30,2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of (two) seven years," and Adds a new section, HRH 302A-805(d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2,2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses." Thank you for this opportunity to testify,
Sincerely, (Mrs) Barbara Nosaka, at Ilima Intermediate School

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 9:50 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: ldjm@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: J. Yamashita
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: ldjm@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/17/2009

Comments:
Subject: SB 497 SD1 Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I oppose SB 497 SD1. Please eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, we respectfully request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

Amends HRS §302A-805 (b)

to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and Adds a new section, HRS §302A-805 (d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

I have worked for the DOE for almost 30 years and have done more than HTSB requires. Please respect our profession and reputation. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 10:28 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: konog002@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gail Kono
Organization: Individual
Address: 94-477 Kuahui St. Waipahu, HI
Phone: 808-676-0879
E-mail: konog002@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/17/2009

Comments:

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I ask for your consideration of the elimination of the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, I respectfully request that SB497 SD1 be amended by adding language that:

Amends HRS '302A-805 (b) to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

Adds a new section, HRS '302A-805 (d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

House Committee on Education and Labor & Public Employment for SB497 SB1
Wednesday, March 18, 2009
Conference Room 309, State Capitol
Time 03:00 p.m.

Aloha Chairs Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Legislative Auditor stated that the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board exceeded their authority to extend licenses beyond those granted by statute to licenses expiring in 2002 and 2003. Teachers who had their licenses extended met all the requirements imposed by the board. We should not be penalized by the action of the Standards Board.

We respectfully request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

- » Amends HRS Â§302A-805(b) to read: "Teachers who licenses expire on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and
- » Adds a new section, 302A-805(d): "Teachers whose licenses expire on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses." Adds a new section, 302A-805(d): "Teachers whose licenses expire on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

I have had numerous run-ins with the HTSB, including paying them fees while I was out of the DOE system, and not being reimbursed for them once I returned to the DOE till months and many phone calls and e-mails later. This organization needs an overhaul, and I hope you can help us with that.

They have had years to get their "act together" and they still haven't told us what is required to renew our licenses. This is completely unacceptable.

Thank you for keeping Hawaii's teachers teaching so our children can learn and for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lawrence Denis III

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 11:05 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: cindy.l.fong@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cynthia Fong
Organization: Individual
Address: 1103 Ainalako Road Hilo, HI
Phone: (808) 959-8531
E-mail: cindy.l.fong@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/17/2009

Comments:

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I am most concerned with the HTSB status. I do not feel as a teacher I should be penalized for their inability to adequately or properly enact the rules as my license expires in June 2009. I have submitted the necessary paperwork as listed for their "tentative licensing renewal process" that has been undergoing a "test study". But have not heard if they got it or not. It was a rather painful and arduous process to put all the paperwork and evidence together all while also teaching full-time and not knowing if I was submitting the appropriate information to provide the necessary evidence for my license renewal. I also filed for an extension since I have yet to hear from them.

It is already unfortunate that the DOE & HSTA, in the desperation to get Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT) in science due to NCLB, have lowered the praxis passing test requirements. Honestly, if you want truly qualified science and technical personnel - salary is the way to increase these particular personnel - afterall, the options for employment with good salaries and less stress of teaching are easily available without the expectation of having to volunteer much of your time to make things happen. Lowering the acceptable score does not increase the number of truly qualified teachers in the classroom - it may say so on paper but in practice, it is worse than a bandaid fix and will have a long-term negative effect on the quality of teaching within the classroom.

Further, the guidelines HTSB has for teacher licensing are rather outmoded and such that very qualified professionals with industry experience who want to teach are unable to get into the classroom due to this arcane licensing process and a need to take additional classes with significant cut in pay prior to even being offered the opportunity.

It would be more prudent to have a different track as these professionals cannot necessarily take a year or two off from a job to pursue teacher education classes. They would benefit by taking these classes while teaching and so would our students.

The whole HTSB needs to be reviewed and overhauled if the goal is to truly have qualified and inspirational teachers educating our next generation. The HTSB does need outside agency oversight - not oversight from the teacher union or DOE as we do have teachers at private schools who do greatly benefit from having licensed teachers. It should include the DOE and the teacher's union for valued input. Licensing is useful in that it does require/expect the

teacher to stay on top of their field, incorporating researched based and proven methods, and continue to evolve positively.

But the process and limitations of what is acceptable needs revamping and needs to be more clearly stated so that teachers know exactly what they need to do to provide evidence of continual growth.

It is counter-productive and demoralizing to penalize teacher's licenses if the HTSB is unable to fulfill their duties.

Thanks!

Cindy Fong
Science Teacher, Hawaii Island

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2009 9:00 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: mauitechgirl@mauitechgirl.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position:
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kelly E. Duell
Organization: Individual
Address: PO Box 367 Haiku, HI 96708
Phone: 8085724665
E-mail: mauitechgirl@mauitechgirl.com
Submitted on: 3/18/2009

Comments:
Subject: SB 497 SD1 Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I encourage the committee to eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, I respectfully request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

Amends HRS '302A-805 (b) to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

Adds a new section, HRS '302A-805 (d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

I also would like to see the Teacher's Board be eliminated completely since they are not licensing teachers appropriately. They should be required to give licenses to those teachers who have earned their National Board Certifications, without having to submit all documents as a new teacher.

berg1-Ana Maria

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2009 7:38 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: epernox@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB497 on 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for EDN/LAB 3/18/2009 3:00:00 PM SB497

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Edward Cook
Organization: Individual
Address: 408 Molo St. Kapa`a, HI
Phone: 808 8211841
E-mail: epernox@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/18/2009

Comments:

Chair Takumi, Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

I encourage the committee to eliminate the establishment of an advisory committee. In addition, I respectfully request that SB 497 SD 1 be amended by adding language that:

Amends HRS §302A-805 (b) to read: "Any teacher whose license expires on June 30, 2002 or June 30, 2003 shall be granted an automatic extension of [two] seven years," and

Adds a new section, HRS §302A-805 (d): "Any teacher whose license expires on or after July 1, 2009, but before July 2, 2010, shall be granted an automatic extension of one year in which to obtain a renewal of their licenses. The board, at its discretion, may grant an additional one-year extension of these licenses."

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.