



## LATE TESTIMONY

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### TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND HOUSING

RE: SB 497 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

February 2, 2009

ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) opposes SB 497 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 which are as follows:

- 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.

We strongly urge the committee to not pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**LATE TESTIMONY**

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

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
AND HOUSING**

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

**Monday, February 2, 2009**

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

Chairman Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board respectfully opposes SB 497 Relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, which seeks to establish an Advisory Committee to oversee the Board and to provide the Governor with lists of nominees to serve as Board Members.

Since the draft report of the Auditor called for in Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83, SD1 has yet to be completed, the Board believes SB 497 is premature.

Additionally, in view of the directives issued by the Governor to cut budget items and reduce spending, the Board believes that adding another layer of government is counterproductive.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

*HSTB opposes  
of passes, waits  
regress - on Advis - Com*