

Date: 03/30/2011

Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1282,SD1,HD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Permits the administration of nationally norm-referenced testing in any content area for certain grades at the discretion of individual schools and complexes at the school or complex's own expense.

Department's Position: Supports

The Department of Education is in support of S.B. No. 1282, S.D.1, H.D.1 based on the following:

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are informed by the highest, most effective models from states across the county and countries around the world, and provide teachers and parents with a common understanding of what students are expected to learn. Consistent standards will provide appropriate benchmarks for all students, regardless of where they live and will define the knowledge and skills students should possess within their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs.

With the President of the United States endorsing the development of CCSS, the adoption by all states except two, the awarding of grants to consortiums of states SMARTER Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC) and Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) to develop assessments aligned to the CCSS, the emphasis is to develop an assessment aligned to the CCSS with a common proficiency levels that could allow the comparison across states.

The CCSS assessment would be a direct match of the standards that are being taught in the classroom and a more precise reflection of the

performance of a student's knowledge and skills of the standards. The assessment would measure the specific grade level standards for each content area. In addition, the assessment could allow multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills through a variety of responses, including performance items.

Presently, most states compare themselves to the nation through the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which is given at grades 4 and 8. These benchmark grades give Hawaii a chance to demonstrate where they fall nationally. Additionally, as the common assessments are developed and administered online, participating states will have another national measure.

The language in Section 5 of the measure should be revised to clarify that this measure takes effect upon its approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of S.B. No. 1282, S.D.1, H.D.1.



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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE**

RE: SB 1282, SD1, HD1 -- RELATING TO EDUCATION.

March 30, 2011

**WIL OKABE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB 1282, SD1, HD1, repealing the administration of nationally norm-referenced testing.

The Board of Education has adopted the common core state standards and these standards define the knowledge and skills students should possess within their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate from high school with the ability to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs.

Hawaii is a governing member of the SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium that will be developing and implementing a summative assessment in grades three through eight and high school in English language arts and mathematics that will provide comparable achievement standards across all of the states that are members of the consortium. Therefore, once the common core state standards and summative assessments are implemented, the administration of nationally norm-referenced tests will no longer be necessary. It should be left up to schools to decide whether to administer the nationally norm-referenced tests.

Therefore, we support SB1282, SD1, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.