

Date: 03/16/2011

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1282,SD1(sscr477) RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Makes the administration of nationally norm-referenced testing in English and math for certain grades discretionary rather than mandatory. Repeals the administration of nationally norm-referenced testing on July 1, 2015.
(SD1)

Department's Position: Supports

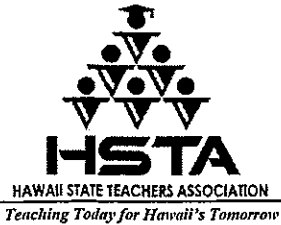
The Department of Education is in support of S.B. No. 1282, S.D.1 based on the following:

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are informed by the highest, most effective models from states across the country 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



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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION**

RE: SB 1282, SD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

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

Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB 1282, SD1, repealing the administration of nationally norm-referenced testing or making administration of nationally norm-referenced testing in English language arts and math for certain grades discretionary rather than mandatory.

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.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.