

Date: 02/06/2012

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 2007 Relating to Instructional Time

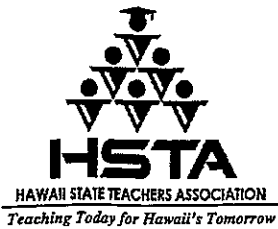
Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education to devise four bell schedules for each grade level to standardize instructional periods across all schools, with the exception of charter schools and multi-track public schools.

Requires each school to choose one of the available bell schedules for each grade level.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2007, but with a revision to 302A- Bell schedules. The Department would like to have the following sentence, "The department shall devise up to four standard bell schedules for each grade level," revised to read, "The Department shall devise up to four standard bell schedule options available for elementary, middle, and high schools."

As reported by the Department for Act 052, currently, there are a number of individual bell schedules that schools have developed and are using. This bill will provide the Department an opportunity to work with appropriate role groups to develop and implement consistent standardized bell schedules. Standardized scheduling will allow for coordinated planning and learning opportunities for students and school staff.



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

Wil Okabe
President
Karolyn Mossman
Vice President
Joan Kamila Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer
Alvin Nagasako
Executive Director

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION**

RE: HB 2007 RELATING TO INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2012

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

Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association opposes HB 2007 requiring the Department of Education to offer up to four standard bell schedules for each grade level.

Instructional time is the teacher work day. We encourage this body to share the proposed standard bell schedules first through the consult and confer process and not legislated. Instructional time is in the Collective Bargaining Agreement and if the teacher work day is lengthened they must be compensated.

Act 51 allows each school to address a bell schedule based on the needs of the school population, feeder schools, bus schedules and lunch schedules. Schools also look at facility design and distance between classrooms. Standardized bell schedules may be difficult to implement.

We acknowledge the intent to provide equal opportunity and access to students in subject area and we support that effort. Let us work together to create what works for students, teachers and schools. Education reform must include teacher voices and their rights to collectively bargain the implementation must be protected.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

To: House Education Committee

From: Melanie Bailey, Human Resources Professional 277-5121
Kathy Bryant, Facilitating Professional 225-9043

Date: Hearing February 6, 2012

RE: Proposed Amendment - Definition of Instructional Time

We are in support of the intent of HB2007 but concerned that by eliminating the goal of 1080 hours of instructional time we are setting ourselves up for mediocrity. Our research from the Education Commission of the States shows, that for secondary schools, 32% of States have 1080 hours of instructional time or more per year.

In addition, we would like to suggest an amendment, which clarifies the definition of instructional time, which we believe, is a critical component in this discussion as we move forward.

The current definition of student instructional hours from Act 167 is:

"Student learning time during which students are engaged in learning activities including regularly scheduled instruction and learning assessments within the curriculum, and does not include lunch, recess or passing time."

For elementary schools, we propose:

Student learning time during which students are engaged in learning activities including regularly scheduled instruction, project based learning assignments, technology-assisted learning, and learning assessments within the curriculum.

For purposes of determining the adequacy of instructional time it does not include lunch, recess, pre and post school teacher time, planning time, and any other time that is not instructional.

For secondary schools, we propose:

Student learning time during which students are engaged in learning activities including regularly scheduled instruction, project based learning assignments, technology-assisted learning, and learning assessments within the curriculum.

For purposes of determining the adequacy of instructional time, in addition to classroom time where both teachers and students are present, structured learning time may include presentations by persons other than teachers, directed study, no more than 15 minutes a day for homeroom, no more than 45 minutes a week for student advisory, and statewide performance assessments. Time which a student spends at lunch, passing between classes, at recess, in non-directed study periods, in optional school programs such as: activity clubs, sports, and non-academic assemblies, pre and post school teacher time, planning time and any other time that is not instructional time may not be included.

Thank you.

belatti2 - Kate

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 05, 2012 2:43 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: lisa.m.galloway@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2007 on 2/6/2012 2:05:00 PM

Testimony for EDN 2/6/2012 2:05:00 PM HB2007

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lisa Galloway
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lisa.m.galloway@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/5/2012

Comments:

I am a teacher and educational researcher with 20 years in the field of education. I oppose legislation with does NOT consider the myriad unique school communities of Hawaii and wants to standardize everything to convenience the adults in the DOE. Four sizes will NOT fit all! More time in class does NOT equate with better student outcomes. Quality, not quantity is needed, and student and teacher moral need to be considered. Each school needs to make their own decisions on this using research-proven School Community Based Management. Pls. see http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/hawaiinews/20110509_Schools_make_strides_despite_length_of_day.html and OPPOSE this.