

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
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TESTIMONY TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

For Hearing on Monday, January 30, 2012  
2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309

BY

BARBARA A. KRIEG  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

**House Bill No. 2510**  
**Relating to the Hawaii State Public Library System**

TO CHAIRPERSON TAKUMI AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The purpose of H. B. No. 2510 is to amend section 46 of Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2004, to clarify that the transfer of certain functions pertaining to education personnel and facilities, did not apply to the Hawaii state public library system (HSPLS) and its employees.

The Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) **strongly supports** this measure. Act 51, SLH 2004, was silent regarding the HSPLS employees and its administrative and personnel functions; as such, DHRD has treated HSPLS as though they were part of the executive branch and continued to provide services in the personnel area relating to recruitment, certification, examination, management, classification, compensation, and labor relations. Passage of this bill will clarify any ambiguity as it relates to HSPLS employees.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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RICHARD BURNS  
STATE LIBRARIAN

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**House Committee on Education  
Monday, January 30, 2012  
State Capitol, Room 309**

**HB2510 - Relating to the Hawaii State Public Library System**

The Hawaii State Public Library System has drafted and strongly supports HB2510.

The main purpose of this bill is to clarify The Hawaii State Public Library System's (HSPLS) status as a state agency separate from the Department of Education (DOE). This bill clearly places HSPLS and its employees under the executive branch.

Act 51, SLH 2004, transferred the control of certain functions pertaining to education personnel and facilities to the DOE to increase DOE's operational efficiency and reduce bureaucracy. This bill would clarify that HSPLS was not intended to be affected by the transfer to DOE in regards to all of the rights, powers, duties, resources, and functions listed in section 46. Act 51 was silent regarding the HSPLS employees and its administrative and personnel functions. HSPLS and its employees are best served by the personnel system administered by the Department of Human Resources Development and not the personnel system administered by

DOE. Additionally, the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) is currently responsible for the maintenance and all general repairs of all 50 public libraries. This bill would identify DAGS as our contract administrator for all CIP projects including new libraries.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify on this measure.