

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



BARBARA A. KRIEG
INTERIM DIRECTOR

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

January 27, 2012

**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. 2511
Relating to Libraries**

TO CHAIRPERSON TAKUMI AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The purpose of H. B. No. 2511 is to formalize the recognition of the State Librarian as the top-level official, appointed by the Board of Education, who is responsible for administering the statewide library system. The Bill also allows the State Librarian to appoint an exempt secretary.

The Department of Human Resources Development **supports** this measure. It is reasonable that the State Librarian should be authorized, as are department heads and other top level officials in the State, to appoint a secretary who is at will, where the need is established by the individual official and his/her management style and/or personal preferences, rather than the functions of the office.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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RICHARD BURNS
STATE LIBRARIAN

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN
44 MERCHANT STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

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

HB2511 - Relating to Libraries

The Hawaii State Public Library System has requested and strongly supports HB2511.

The purpose of this bill is to update Chapter 312, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) so it accurately reflects long-standing State Board of Education (BOE) and Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) practice.

Chapter 312, HRS, assigns various duties and responsibilities to the BOE. In practice, the board does not, and has not, performed these duties and responsibilities; they have been delegated to the state librarian and the HSPLS. This bill will amend Chapter 312, HRS, so that it more accurately reflects the duties and responsibilities of the BOE, HSPLS, and the State Librarian.

This bill also allows the State Librarian to appoint the State Librarian's private secretary and repeals section 312-6, HRS, relating to Bond Memorial Library, which was replaced by North Kohala Public Library in November 2010.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.