

SB605

Date: 02/11/2011

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0605 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Restructures the department of education into two major divisions – the academic achievement division and the administration division – and establishes two senior deputy superintendent positions to head the divisions.

Department's Position: The Department supports this bill and urges its passage. This bill supports the ambitious transforming education goals set forth in the State of Hawaii Race to the Top application by improving the Superintendent of Education's management capacity. The Superintendent of Education serves as both the Chief State School Officer and the chief executive officer of the tenth largest school district in the nation. By creating two senior deputy superintendent positions this bill would increase the responsiveness of direct support to the administrative infrastructure and instructional leadership resulting in improved operations and student achievement. Passage of this legislation will enable the Superintendent of Education to provide the level of leadership necessary to improve daily administrative operations and guide

instructional transformation activities while meeting the additional leadership demands inherent in the position.