



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

Monday, April 8, 2:00 PM
State Capitol Room 414

Testimony of
NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawaii

To the Senate Education Committee
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Governor's Message 746

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Committee Members:

I am pleased to support the confirmation of **Joan Husted** to the Education Commission of the States for a term ending June 30, 2017.

I have known Joan for decades. We have worked together on issues throughout our careers. She is a tireless advocate of teachers, public education and women.

Joan is well known for her long service as a leader of the Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) for more than 35 years. Joan has also served as a board or commission member in a number of capacities including PBS, Aloha United Way, State Commission of the Status of Women, the State Tax Review Commission, Hawaii Education Policy Center, and the Temporary Commission on Comparable Worth. At my request, Joan has also been serving on the Great Teachers Great Leaders Task Force advising the Superintendent on the new performance evaluation for teachers, so she remains involved in education even five years after her retirement from HSTA.

Joan will represent Hawaii well as a Commissioner on the Education Commission of the States. I strongly support her confirmation. I look forward to working with Joan in our continuing efforts to advance public education and the interests of the State of Hawaii.