

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

LATE

KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

Date: 02/01/2013

Committee: House Water & Land/House
Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0253 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the instructional office of Hawaiian studies for the purpose of providing instruction to public school students on Hawaiian history, culture, arts, and language. Makes an appropriation for the instructional office of Hawaiian studies.

Department's Position:

At this time, the Department of Education chooses not to comment on HB253 until the Board of Education (Board) is given an opportunity to review the Bill. In addition, the Department would like to discuss this bill with its Hawaiian Language Immersion Program stakeholders. Positions taken will be subsequently shared with the appropriate legislative committees. Bills relating to public education with policy, program, and fiscal implications are scheduled to be reviewed by the Board at its upcoming General Business Meeting.

The Department would also like to ensure that any implementation of HB 253 would not impact or replace priorities set forth in the Executive Budget for Fiscal Biennium 2013-2015.