



Hawaii Government  
Employees Association  
*Working Together for Hawaii*

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**LATE TESTIMONY**

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The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
The Senate  
Committee on Education  
Testimony by  
HGEA AFSCME Local 152  
February 1, 2013

**S.B. 49- Related to Education**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, HGEA AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO opposes S.B. 49 that repeals Section 302A-605 and Section 302A-1103. The following serves as our justification for our opposition.

Section 302A-605 currently provides the jurisdiction to the Department of Education to administer the alternate route to certification program, provides clarification on “appropriate school level experience” and an expectation that such school level experience be standard for the seat of Principal as an instructional leader. Section 302A-605 further extends expectations to the seat of the Vice Principal and defines the intent of alternate routes of certification to require it to be aligned with the United States Department of Education regulations for state applications for the Race to the Top fund allocations under section 14001 of the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as amended. The repealing of this Section will have grave consequences for Principals, Vice Principals and their Schools.

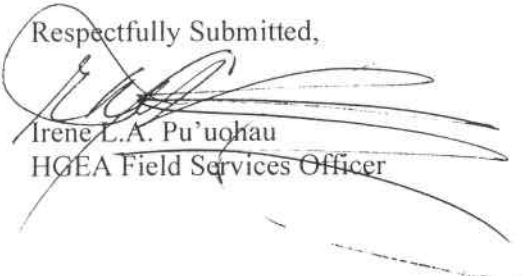
Section 302A-1103 currently provides a broad but clear definition of the authority and responsibility of the Principal which serves as the authority by which policy, procedure and the recently implemented Comprehensive Evaluation System for School Administrators “CESSA” is based. The repealing of this Section would leave ambiguous the definition of the role of the Principal and have a negative effect on Schools.

In further support of our position to oppose the repealing of these Sections we offer the Department of Education’s 2010 Harold K.L. Castle Foundation Study titled “Strengthening Hawaii’s Principal Pipeline: Voices from the Field” in which (13) thirteen out of (15) fifteen Complex Area Superintendents (CAS) and (50) fifty Principals were interviewed. In this study, 50% of the CAS are concerned with the diversity and **quality** of Principal and Vice Principal candidates while 58% believed that the nature (workload) of the Principalship makes it difficult to attract quality candidates. Both of these concerns from the field, school level experience and the definition of the authority and responsibility of the principal are defined in Section 302A-605 and 302A-1103, and as such the removal of this language from the statute will have a devastating impact.

We ask that this Bill be amended to reflect Section 302A-605 and Section 302A-1103 remain intact in its entirety.

We also ask that consideration be made in Section 302A-102 to broaden the prohibition of tobacco to include any and all nicotine containing apparatus and/or contraband as determined by the Department. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully Submitted,



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