

LATE

From: [Angie Miyashiro](#)
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Date: Sunday, March 20, 2016 9:34:51 PM

I strongly support HB 1228 HD2, relating to teacher leaders.

Chronic teacher turnover forces the department of education to rely on emergency hires and long-term substitute teachers to fill vacancies. Teacher turnover is especially high in Hawaii and impacting on hard-to-staff, largely rural or impoverished, schools, where as few as 56 percent of teachers have obtained full state certification and bachelor's degrees. Recruitment and retention is additionally worsened by Hawai'i's high cost of living. According to a WalletHub study, the islands ranked fifty-first out of fifty states and the District of Columbia for starting and median teacher salary adjusted for cost of living. This is unacceptable and causes us to lose many great teachers each year, as well as not attract enough people to become teachers. We should be encouraging them to not only become teachers, but to stay in the profession in our public schools, and commending them for their continued leadership roles that they take on to move our public education system forward.

Leadership is an essential skill to building successful schools and increasing student achievement. Thus, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to support this bill, rewarding, and encouraging the valuable leadership skills our public school educators have harnessed.

Sincerely, Angie Miyashiro, Ka'u High and Pahala Elementary

Angie Miyashiro, Ed.D., NBCT

*Only he who attempts the absurd is capable of achieving the impossible
The most certain way to succeed is to always try one more time. Thomas Edison
Slow is smooth, smooth is fast
I will either find a way or make one. Hannibal*

LATE

From: [Joyce Haase](#)
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in support of HB1228 HD2
Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 1:26:46 PM

Dear Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support HB 1228 HD2, relating to teacher leaders.

I have taught for 10 years in Hawaii in a hard to fill location, the island of Molokai. I love my work with students and dedicate my time to their success and to creating a positive climate for learning at our school and on Molokai. I have seen improvements throughout my years of teaching, yet I have also seen increased demands on teachers that result in low school morale and teacher burnout. I have a Master's Degree in Teaching and am currently a National Board Teaching Candidate.

Chronic teacher turnover forces the department of education to rely on emergency hires and long-term substitute teachers to fill vacancies especially in "hard to fill" location like Molokai. Teacher turnover is especially high in Hawaii and impacting on hard-to-staff, largely rural or impoverished, schools, where as few as 56 percent of teachers have obtained full state certification and bachelor's degrees. Recruitment and retention is additionally worsened by Hawaii's high cost of living. According to a WalletHub study, the islands ranked fifty-first out of fifty states and the District of Columbia for starting and median teacher salary adjusted for cost of living. This is unacceptable and causes us to lose many great teachers each year, as well as not attract enough people to become teachers. We should be encouraging them to not only become teachers, but to stay in the profession in our public schools, and commending them for their continued leadership roles that they take on to move our public education system forward.

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Sincerely,
Joyce Haase
Kaunakakai School
6th Grade Teacher

Joyce Haase
joyce.a.haase@gmail.com

LATE

From: [Tamie Richardson](#)
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Subject: The Teacher Leader bill HB1228 HD2
Date: Sunday, March 20, 2016 10:13:54 PM

Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support HB 1228 HD2, relating to teacher leaders.

Chronic teacher turnover forces the department of education to rely on emergency hires and long-term substitute teachers to fill vacancies. Teacher turnover is especially high in Hawaii and impacting on hard-to-staff, largely rural or impoverished, schools, where as few as 56 percent of teachers have obtained full state certification and bachelor's degrees. Recruitment and retention is additionally worsened by Hawai'i's high cost of living. According to a WalletHub study, the islands ranked fifty-first out of fifty states and the District of Columbia for starting and median teacher salary adjusted for cost of living. This is unacceptable and causes us to lose many great teachers each year, as well as not attract enough people to become teachers. We should be encouraging them to not only become teachers, but to stay in the profession in our public schools, and commending them for their continued leadership roles that they take on to move our public education system forward.

Leadership is an essential skill to building successful schools and increasing student achievement. Thus, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to support this bill, rewarding, and encouraging the valuable leadership skills our public school educators have harnessed.

Sincerely,
Tamie Richardson
Kaimiloa Elementary School
tamiemrichardson@gmail.com

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Tamie Richardson
E203 Grade 4 & E201 Grade 5