



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

Date: 03/16/2015
Time: 01:15 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1230, HD1 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes an interagency working group to create a comprehensive plan to transfer the Department of Accounting and General Services's personnel and functions related to neighbor island public schools, to the Department of Education. (HB1230 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (DOE) supports this measure as it provides for a framework for continued discussions and revisions to be made to the requirements of Act 51. Although the implementation of most of Act 51's requirements occurred nearly 10 years ago, issues continue to arise, and adjustments or revisions continue to be necessary as situations change.

This includes the final resolution of how to accommodate the needs of the neighbor island schools so that service levels are consistent statewide. The DOE requests an appropriation of \$100,000 per year to underwrite the cost of travel and other operational expenses for this working group.

The changes to the composition of the working group members made in HD1 are aligned with the composition of the original working group of Act 51.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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LATE

The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Education

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
March 16, 2015

H.B. 1230, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports H.B. 1230, H.D. 1. This measure re-establishes and provides funding for an interagency working group, based on Act 51, to create a comprehensive plan to transfer personnel and functions of the Department of Accounting and General Services related to neighbor island public schools to the Department of Education.

Act 51: The Reinventing Education Act of 2004 had at its core the enhancement of the academic achievement of our youth in Hawaii's public schools. To that end, the Legislature recognized that a reduction of the state's bureaucracy which hampered the effectiveness of the Department of Education was necessary and, thus, created a working group on interagency relations. This interagency working group was responsible to develop a comprehensive plan for transferring certain rights, powers, functions, duties and resources, including positions, from various state departments to the department of education. Act 51 directed that the interagency working group cease to exist on June 30, 2007. However, as stated by the Department of Education, "issues continue to arise, and adjustments or revisions continue to be necessary."

The reconvening and funding of the interagency working group is necessary as the state continues its efforts to strengthen public education in Hawaii. The participation of each of the exclusive representatives of the bargaining units of affected employees is extremely important and the HGEA looks forward to being an active participant on the interagency working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 1230, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director

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HB1230

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for EDU on Mar 16, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Teresa Parsons | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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