



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

Date: 03/17/2015

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 309

Committee: House Labor & Public
Employment

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1346 RELATING TO TEACHERS.

Purpose of Bill: Applies the same probationary period requirements of department of education teachers to public charter school teachers, who have not earned tenure within the department of education, upon entry or reentry to the department of education.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports S.B. 1346. The proposed revision allows the Department to align probationary requirements for all incoming teachers. It corrects the existing inequity where a licensed charter school teacher may enter or return to the Department and gain tenure after only one year, whereas licensed Department teachers must serve three years of probation.

The proposed revision also ensures that there is sufficient time for principals to observe and provide assistance and support to probationary teachers before awarding tenure, which ultimately supports the goals of improving student achievement, instructional practices, and overall professionalism.

DAVID IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
('AHA KULA HO'ĀMANA)

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1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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FOR: SB1346 Relating to Teachers
DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2015
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
COMMITTEE(S): House Committee on Labor & Public Employment
ROOM: Conference Room 309
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission appreciates the opportunity to submit these written comments on Senate Bill 1346, "Relating to Teachers," which sets the probationary period for licensed teachers who are not yet tenured in the Department of Education ("DOE") and are entering or returning to the DOE after employment at a public charter school in accordance with policies and practices determined by the Department, Board of Education, and collective bargaining agreements.

While the Commission does not take a position on this legislation, our understanding from the DOE is that this measure is needed to ensure that, under the longer probationary period established under the collective bargaining agreement with the Hawaii State Teachers Association ("HSTA"), a public charter school teacher transferring to a DOE school does not enjoy an unfair advantage as to his or her probationary status relative to a teacher who has served for the same period of time in the DOE. Assuming that the proposed change would not place an experienced public charter school teacher at an unfair disadvantage as to his or her probationary status in the DOE, this would seem appropriate. We note that HSTA, which represents both DOE and charter school teachers, has expressed support for the proposal.

The Commission would respectfully request that this Committee revise this measure as the House Committee on Education revised a companion measure, House Bill 1349, at the suggestion of the Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network, by providing that tenured DOE teachers who transfer to charter schools are subject to the appropriate collective bargaining

agreement, rather than statutorily exempt, as they are under current law, from serving a probationary period. Public charter schools are authorized under Section 302D-12(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to negotiate supplemental collective bargaining agreements with the exclusive representatives of their employees. This revision to the bill would clarify that a provision related to teacher probation in such a supplemental agreement negotiated between the charter school's teachers and the governing board will be respected.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 4:18 PM
To: LABtestimony
Cc: diane.ragone@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1346 on Mar 17, 2015 10:00AM*

SB1346

Submitted on: 3/13/2015

Testimony for LAB on Mar 17, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Ragone	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 10:35 PM
To: LABtestimony
Cc: jamesjtz@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1346 on Mar 17, 2015 10:00AM

SB1346

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for LAB on Mar 17, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Gauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Making it fair for status of tenure ship across the board is right.

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