

SB860

Senate Bill 860

Chairperson Kidani and Vice-Chair Person Harimoto. My name is Joan Lee Husted. I am the retired Executive Director of the Hawaii State Teachers Association. I speak in opposition to Senate Bill 860.

As I stated in my earlier testimony, one of the rationales for taking the vote away from Hawaii's citizens by converting the elected board to an appointed board of education was to clear the lines of accountability by making the Governor accountable for the Department of Education.

This bill takes a step back from that rationale. With the Board of Education selecting its own chairperson, it makes the chair not accountable to the Governor but accountable to the Board of Education. The lines of accountability are clearer if the Governor appoints board members and the board chair.

Let's either make the Governor clearly accountable. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to testify.

January 31, 2015