



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

Date: 02/02/2015
Time: 01:15 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0984 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes an interagency working group consisting of the senate education committee chairperson, house of representatives education committee chairperson, superintendent of education, and comptroller, or their designees, and any other persons the superintendent of education or comptroller deem necessary. Tasks the interagency working group with discussing various issues relating to Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (DOE) supports this bill 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.