

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 04/15/2016
Time: 09:30 AM
Location: 329
Committee: House Health

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 044, SD1 REQUESTING A SUNRISE ANALYSIS OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS.

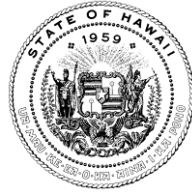
**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SCR 044 SD1 requesting a sunrise analysis of school psychologists. School psychologists are currently an unregulated profession in the public sector in Hawaii. Respectfully, the Department defers to the Office of the Auditor as to the conducting of a sunrise analysis.

We would like to point out that SB13, which is processing through the Legislature, would bypass this process. We suggest that a sunrise analysis on the matter would be prudent and could provide insight to potential impact to the Department.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



DAVID Y. IGE
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SHAN S. TSUTSUI
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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

AND

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016

Friday, April 15, 2016
9:30 p.m.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 44, S.D. 1,
REQUESTING A SUNRISE ANALYSIS OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS.**

TO THE HONORABLE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR,
TO THE HONORABLE ROY M. TAKUMI, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is Celia Suzuki, Licensing Administrator for the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on S.C.R. No. 44, S.D. 1.

The concurrent resolution requests that the Auditor perform a sunrise analysis of Senate Bill No. 2612, Relating to School Psychologists, introduced during the Regular

Testimony on S.C.R. No. 44, S.D. 1
Friday, April 15, 2016
Page 2

Session of 2016. The sunrise review would be conducted pursuant to section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS"). The Auditor's analysis would set forth the probable effects of the proposed regulatory measure, assess whether its enactment is consistent with the purposes of section 26H-2, HRS, and assess alternate forms of regulation. The Department agrees that a sunrise study should be completed by the Auditor before school psychologists are regulated.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on S.C.R. No. 44, S.D. 1.

April 15, 2016

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Conference Room 329 Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

SCR44

Aloha Chair Takumi, Chair Au Belatti, and Representatives:

The Hawaii Association of School Psychologists (HASP) believes that licensure is important for all professionals that are entrusted to care for students, especially those with special needs. HR 465 protects the professional integrity of the term “psychology” by ensuring that nonlicensed individuals cannot practice psychology. This public protection ensures that specialized training and expertise is required to practice psychology. Currently, School Psychologists are ‘exempt’ from having to have licensure to practice in the educational setting (HRS465) and have had no credentialing in the state of Hawaii. Hawaii is the **only** state in the nation that allows this. This exemption has allowed individuals who do not have graduate training in school psychology and who do not meet the nationally accepted certification standard to practice “psychology” within the educational setting. We are asking for the legislators support to establish licensing in Hawaii, in that it nullifies that exemption and ensures that students receive services from highly qualified and licensed professionals. Only certificated or licensed professionals are billable under Medicaid, so the current exemption does not allow for the Department of Education to bill for any services or evaluations conducted by school psychologists at this time. Licensing of school psychologists would be another avenue for the DOE to generate funds under Medicaid.

Graduate training in school psychology and a supervised internship aligns with the Practice Model set forth by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The Practice Model outlines the professional expectations of respecting the dignity and rights of all persons and maintaining professional competency and integrity in professional relationships to foster and maintain the public trust. Our practice model outlines the training of school psychologists that requires them to be forthright about their qualifications, competencies, and roles. We work in full cooperation with other professional disciplines to meet the needs of students and families and avoid multiple relationships that diminish their professional effectiveness. We maintain the public trust by respecting law and encouraging ethical conduct. When untrained and unqualified persons are employed as a ‘school psychologist’ under this current exemption in HR 465, but do not meet the graduate level training requirements, the integrity of the profession is compromised and the public is not protected. The training of school psychologist is unique in that we have extensive training in cognitive, academic, emotional and adaptive assessment practices and training to ensure these measures are fair, reliable and valid. When these assessments are not administered as they were designed, the students are not being fairly assessed, which can result in inaccurate results. The research is clear that students who are identified with special learning needs are at a higher risk for a number of negative outcomes, such as dropping out of school, qualifying for lower-level jobs, or becoming involved in criminal activity.

Hawaii Association of School Psychologist asks that you support licensing of school psychologists to ensure that all children in Hawaii are afforded the same protection of a licensed and credentialed professional working in their scope of practice.

Respectfully Submitted:

Leslie A. Baunach, MA/CAS, NCSP
HASP President

creagan1 - Shayne

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2016 9:15 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: luluperucci@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR44 on Apr 15, 2016 09:30AM*

SCR44

Submitted on: 4/14/2016

Testimony for HLT/EDN on Apr 15, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taffy Perucci	Hawaii Association of School Psychologists	Support	No

Comments:

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SCR44

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for HLT/EDN on Apr 15, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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creagan1 - Shayne

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Cc: siri9582@yahoo.com
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SCR44

Submitted on: 4/14/2016

Testimony for HLT/EDN on Apr 15, 2016 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Iris Mackey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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