

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD
650 IWILEI ROAD, SUITE 201
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

PERSON TESTIFYING: Lynn Hammonds, Executive Director

DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2017

TIME: 3:00 PM

LOCATION: State Capitol Conference Room 308

TITLE OF BILL: HB492, RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

PURPOSE OF BILL: Appropriates moneys from the general fund for two specialist II positions within the Hawaii teacher standards board.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) thanks the House Committee on Finance for considering HB492 and **strongly supports** this bill to general fund Hawaii Teacher Standards Board's two specialists. These positions were originally created under the general fund, and are already established permanent, filled positions. The two individuals in these positions support the day to day licensing functions of the HTSB, working directly with approximately 12,000 teacher applicants and licensees in all Hawaii public schools. While their main function is managing the workflow for teacher licensing, they also lend support to preservice preparation, US Department of Education Title 2 reporting, and the review of licensing standards and testing. HTSB has a strong team that is able to meet these needs, and we hope to be able to continue to offer capable, efficient, effective support to teachers through the work of these two specialists.

HTSB's special fund is based solely on teacher licensing fees, and HTSB assumed payment of these two specialist positions and several clerical positions in FY2012. Over the past four fiscal years, since fully transitioning all personnel and operating expenses from the general to the special fund, the increase in salary and benefits for personnel costs have exceeded HTSB's special fund revenue from annual teacher licensing fees of \$48 per licensee. In order to offset this trend, HTSB has reduced its staff from thirteen full time employees to a current count of five full time and two

half time individuals, reduced office space by half, as well as taken other cost cutting measures. We feel that this is the minimum staff possible to effectively support all functions of the HTSB.

We humbly thank you again and ask for the House Finance Committee's support for our work, to help ensure that our licensed teachers have the appropriate training, knowledge, skills and dispositions to teach our most precious resource, Hawaii's Keiki.

Thank you for your support of education and for the opportunity to testify.

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

PERSON TESTIFYING: Terry Holck, Chairperson of the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board

DATE: February 28, 2017

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

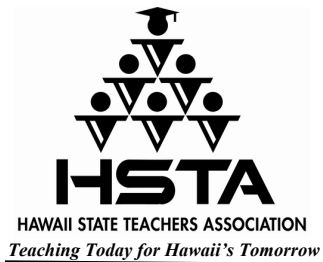
LOCATION: State Capitol Conference Room 308

TITLE OF BILL: HB492 HD1, RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen, and Members of the Finance Committee:

I strongly support HB492, which appropriates general funds for the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board's two specialist II positions. Executive Director Lynn Hammonds and the Board has worked very hard to streamline our costs. The Board has greatly reduced staff, as well as our office rental space, in order to lower our expenses. Even with these cuts, personnel costs exceed the HTSB's special fund revenue. Therefore, I ask you to please support HB492 HD1.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
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Corey Rosenlee
President
Justin Hughey
Vice President
Amy Perruso
Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE

RE: HB 492, HD 1 - RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS
BOARD.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2017

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports HB 492, HD 1**, relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

In 1995, the State Legislature created the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) to set licensing standards for Hawai'i public school teachers. In 2002, the Legislature transferred responsibility for teacher licensing and State Approval of Teacher Education to HTSB. According to its mission statement, the board “envisions a highly esteemed public education system with rigorous professional teacher standards that foster student success” and aims to “collaboratively set high teacher licensing and credentialing standards” that:

- provide every child with qualified teachers;
- promote professionalism and teaching excellence;
- build public confidence in the teaching profession; and
- provide more accountability to the public.

Yet, HTSB has faced staffing cuts in recent years that have hampered its efforts. In 2012, HTSB relinquished all general funds, leaving personnel specialist II and educational specialist II positions to be funded through special fund appropriations. Since that time, the board has been forced to further reduce staff and office space, adversely impacting its ability to advance teacher quality.

To assist HTSB in overseeing teacher standards, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

By
Donald Young
Dean, College of Education
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 492 HD1 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Young, and I serve as Dean of the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Today I am pleased to submit testimony in support of HB 492 HD1.

The Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) serves a vital function in our state being responsible for teacher licensing and monitoring, reviewing licensing standards and license testing, monitoring the accreditation of teacher preparation programs, reporting to the U.S. Department of Education, etc. In addition, HTSB has been responsive to necessary changes and innovations in teacher preparation and licensing, working collaboratively with all programs in Hawai'i that prepare educators.

The increased workload and the ability to continue to be responsive to needs in the field present HTSB with financial challenges. HB 492 HD1 seeks to shift the costs of two positions to the general fund. Such a shift will enable HTSB to remain solvent without raising licensing fees. As personnel costs have continued to rise, HTSB has adjusted by reducing the number of employees to the minimum they now have. Without additional financial support further cuts will be necessary threatening to reduce the vital services HTSB provides.

I therefore urge the committee to support HB 492 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 6:13 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: diann.huber@iteach.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB492 on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM*

HB492

Submitted on: 2/27/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diann Huber	iteachHAWAII	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 8:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: patemanbeth@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB492 on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM

HB492

Submitted on: 2/27/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Beth Pateman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB492 to fund two specialist II positions within the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2017 7:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: felicia_lobos@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB492 on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM*

HB492

Submitted on: 2/26/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Felicia Villalobos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2017 4:58 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: joef@kalo.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB492 on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM*

HB492

Submitted on: 2/26/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Fraser	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2017 9:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kaawa@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB492 on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM

HB492

Submitted on: 2/25/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Makalapua Alencastre	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strong support this bill to general fund Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board two specialists.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 1:36 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: ldelong0050@gmail.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for HB492 on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM

HB492

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 28, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa DeLong	Hawaii Teacher Standards Board	Support	No

Comments: Aloha! I am in support of HB 492 that appropriates moneys from the general fund for two specialist II positions within the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. (HB492 HD1). Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony.

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

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

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

LATE

FOR: HB492 HD1 Relating to Hawaii Teachers Standards Board
DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2017
TIME: 3:00 P.M.
COMMITTEE(S): House Committee on Finance
ROOM: Conference Room 308
FROM: Sione Thompson, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of HB 492 HD1, which appropriates general fund moneys for two Specialist II positions within the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

The HTSB serves a crucial role in public education in the State of Hawaii. They are responsible for teacher licensing, which includes renewing, revoking, suspending, and reinstating licenses. They also monitor the professional fitness of teachers and support teacher quality. The moneys for the two Specialist II positions funded by this bill will help the board realize their vision to have a highly esteemed public education system with rigorous professional teacher standards that foster student success. The HTSB’s work, in turn, assists the Commission in its oversight of all public charter schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Testimony Before the House Committee on Finance

LATE

Person testifying: Louise Cayetano, 1st Grade Teacher
Mayor Joseph J. Fern Elementary
HTSB Board Member

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: State Capitol Conference Room 308

Title of Bill: HB 492, HD 1, RELATING TO THE HAWAI'I TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates monies from the general fund for two Specialist II positions within the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen, and Members of the Finance Committee,

I am Louise Cayetano, first grade teacher from Fern Elementary School, and a member of the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board. I speak in support of HB 492, HD 1, which would appropriate monies from the general fund to continue the excellent work of our two, Specialist II staff members.

Through my discussions with teachers, I have received positive feedback on the work of Ms. Hammonds, her staff and the HTSB's Specialists. The Specialists are knowledgeable in the areas of teacher licensure and relicensing. They are able to answer questions fielded to them by teachers in a timely manner. This has contributed to teachers having a higher level of confidence in the HTSB as compared to several years in the past.

Specialists are responsible for reviewing the Personal Fitness form completed by teacher applicants, they verify the responses on the form, and check on whether an individual completed a State approved educational preparation program, with licensure in the content field they plan to teach. These Specialists provide an integral part in ensuring that our keiki are safe in our schools and are taught by qualified teachers.

In closing, I ask for your support of HB 492, HD 1, which appropriates monies from the general fund to the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board for the two Specialists who assist Ms. Hammonds with the workload and maintaining quality, customer, satisfaction.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.