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

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2017

Wednesday, March 22, 2017
3:00 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 173, REQUESTING A
SUNRISE ANALYSIS OF THE REGULATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS.**

TO THE HONORABLE JUSTIN H. WOODSON, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Celia Suzuki, Licensing Administrator of the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony on H.C.R. No. 173, Requesting a Sunrise Analysis of the Regulation of School Psychologists.

The concurrent resolution requests that the Auditor perform a sunrise analysis pursuant to section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS"), on the licensure and regulation of school psychologists, as proposed in Senate Bill No. 224, introduced

during the Regular Session of 2017. 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 believes that a sunrise study should be completed by the Auditor so that the legislature has the benefit of important profession-specific information before school psychologists are regulated.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on H.C.R. No. 173.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Date: 03/22/2017
Time: 03:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education
House Higher Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 173 REQUESTING A SUNRISE ANALYSIS OF THE
REGULATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) strongly supports HCR 173, which requests that the Auditor conduct a sunrise analysis of the regulation of school psychologists.

The Department has concerns about the harmful effect of SB 224 SD 2 HD 1, if passed, on our students and employees. As stated in previous testimony on SB 224, a licensing requirement will impede efforts to recruit applicants and decrease the amount of school psychologists. With the nationwide shortage of school psychologists and Hawaii's high cost of living, the Department already struggles to fill its school psychologist vacancies even without the additional burden represented by the proposed licensing requirements. The sunrise analysis proposed by HCR 173 is necessary to determine whether regulation of school psychologists is needed and, if so, the appropriate regulatory requirements.