



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

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

PERSON TESTIFYING:

Lynn Hammonds for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

DATE: Wednesday, February 21, 2018

TIME: 10:08 AM

LOCATION: State Capitol Conference Room 211

TITLE OF BILL: SB2779, SD1, RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

PURPOSE OF BILL:

Increase membership on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to include a member of the Native Hawaiian Education Council and a non-voting public university student teacher. Clarify that a permit is required for non-licensed teachers serving in public schools.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) **strongly supports** SB2779, SD1, which will increase membership on the HTSB to include a member of the Native Hawaiian Education Council (NHEC) and a non-voting public university student teacher, and add clarifying language that a permit is required for non-licensed public school teachers.

The HTSB strives to be inclusive in setting rules and policies that govern teacher licensure and teacher preparation programs in our state, and is especially sensitive that Native Hawaiian needs and perspectives are considered. The NHEC includes broad representation from the Native Hawaiian community focused on education, yet is not the

official representative group of any specific teacher employer or preparation program affected by HTSB regulations.

Another of HTSB's main responsibilities is the approval of educator preparation programs. Individuals enrolled in these programs have always had the opportunity to submit testimony to the HTSB, but have never had an official voice on the board to express opinions on policies affecting their programs. This addition will allow them to have that voice, and will give rotating representation to teacher candidates, or student teachers, from among the public educator preparation programs housed at four University of Hawaii campuses: Manoa, West Oahu, Hilo, including both the Education Division and Kahuawaiola Indigenous Teacher Educator Program, and Leeward Community College.

The remaining revisions add "and permit" as needed to clarify that all Hawaii public school teachers must have either a license or, if they do not yet qualify for a license, the appropriate permit. This is not a change in the law, as all public school teachers are currently required to possess either a license or a permit.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
February 21, 2018 at 10:08 a.m.

By
Donald O. Straney
Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy
University of Hawai'i System

SB 2779 SD1 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 2779 SD1, which increases membership on the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board to include the chairperson of the Native Hawaiian Education Council and a non-voting public university student teacher.

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports the intent of this measure.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony.



SB2779 SD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 21, 2018

10:08 AM

Room 211

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2779 SD1, which would create a new seat on the Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board for the Native Hawaiian Education Council’s chairperson or their designee, as well as a non-voting public university student teacher.

The Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board has various significant duties, including having full responsibility for establishing teacher, school counselor, and school librarian licensing standards, and issuing licenses to those who meet the criteria for these standards. The Board issues three tiers of licenses and two kinds of special permits; approves Hawai‘i based, state approved teacher, counselor, and librarian education programs; validates and adopts licensure tests; and participates in efforts related to teacher quality; among other important duties.

The Native Hawaiian Education Council (Council), established in 1994 under the federal Native Hawaiian Education Act, has a long, community-based history and extensive experience in numerous aspects of education, including in Hawaiian language medium education, Hawaiian language immersion education, public charter school education, early learning, general K-12 education, teacher education and preparation, and professional development, among other areas. Adding the Council’s chairperson or their designee to the Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board will bring valuable and practical perspectives to the Board in carrying out its various important responsibilities. Significantly, having Council representation on the Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board will enable the Board to further the constitutional mandate that “[t]he State shall provide for a Hawaiian education program consisting of language, culture and history in the public schools.”¹

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SB2779 SD1. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

¹HAW. CONST. art. X, § 4 available at <http://lrbhawaii.org/con/conart10.html>.

SB-2779-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 9:21:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Testifying for Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu	Support	No

Comments:

February 21, 2018

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee,

We support SB2779 SD1, increasing membership on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) to include a member of the Native Hawaiian Education Council (NHEC) and a non-voting public university student teacher, and clarifying that a permit is required for non-licensed teachers serving in public schools.

We are a group of advocates from Native Hawaiian, parent, disability, higher education, multilingual, social justice, and education reform communities who have come together to look at opportunities and risks for advancing equity and improving achievement under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). We are committed to equity in education through either of the state's official languages, English and Hawaiian. We are concerned for specified groups that need particular attention - students with disabilities, students who do not speak the language of instruction, students with socio-economic challenges, and racial and ethnic groups that have historically not succeeded in our schools relative to others.

We think that both the addition of the member of the NHEC and a non-voting public university student teacher is appropriate for HTSB. NHEC is strongly tied to community and has an understanding of all aspects of Hawaiian Education and hence, a representative from the Council would be a great contribution. Regarding the non-voting student teacher member, we think it would be extremely valuable to have a teacher candidate voice, as they are the group that HTSB affects the most.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Martha Guinan
Cheri Nakamura
Sylvia Hussey
Patricia Halagao
Brook Chapman DeSousa
Gavin Thornton
William Pila Wilson
Ka'ano'i Walk
Kanakolu Noa
David Miyashiro
Shawn Ford
Alohilani Okamura