



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD
650 IWILEI ROAD, SUITE 268
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

March 27, 2019

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

PERSON TESTIFYING: Lynn Hammonds for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

DATE: Thursday, March 28, 2019

TIME: 3:00 PM

LOCATION: Conference Room 309

TITLE OF BILL: SB 1221 HD1 RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

PURPOSE OF BILL: To clarify wording regarding delegation of powers to the Hawaii Teacher Standard Board's Executive Director to timely approve license and permit applications, to include comprehensive reporting of data from Hawaii Department of Education, Charter School Commission, and Charter Schools, of the number of classrooms without a licensed teacher during the school year.

POSITION: Strong Support

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

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) strongly supports SB 1221 HD1. Clarifying language change will ensure that as individuals meet all requirements for a license or permit, their application can be approved by the executive director and their license issued immediately, instead of having to wait for the HTSB to meet and affirm their license.

This bill also adds to the annual report already required to be submitted by the Department of Education and the Charter School Commission, to also report the number of classrooms without a licensed teacher for a quarter or more of the year. Currently, only the number of classrooms with an emergency hire teacher are reported, and this addition will give an accurate picture of all Hawaii classrooms without a licensed teacher. Knowing this will help the Legislature, schools, and Hawaii preparation programs know the true need for closing the teacher recruitment and retention gap.

The responsibility for reporting non-licensed teachers in charter school classrooms will be transferred from the Charter School Commission to each charter school, to provide information throughout the year

to confirm all charter teachers have the appropriate license or permit as required in statute. The Commission will continue to report summary information on all charter schools on an annual basis.

Finally, the requirement to report on individual progress for licensure is removed as a reporting requirement, as this information is better suited to the individual's professional growth plan developed by the teacher and administrator at the school level to support progress toward licensure.

Thank you for your support in and for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



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

Date: 03/28/2019
Time: 03:00 PM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1221, HD1 RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD.

Purpose of Bill: Clarifies delegation of powers to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board's Executive Director to timely approve license and permit applications. Clarifies reporting of data from Hawaii Department of Education, Charter School Commission, and Charter Schools, including the number of classrooms without a licensed teacher during the school year. (SB1221 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) takes no position on SB 1221, HD 1 and submits the following comments.

The Department will continue to work closely and collaboratively with the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to provide information it deems necessary to forward its mission of contributing towards "a highly esteemed public education system with rigorous professional teacher standards that foster student success."

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.