



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

January 30, 2019

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**PERSON TESTIFYING:** Lynn Hammonds, for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

**DATE:** Friday, February 1, 2019

**TIME:** 2:45 pm

**LOCATION:** State Capitol Conference Room 229

**TITLE OF BILL:** SB 340 RELATING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

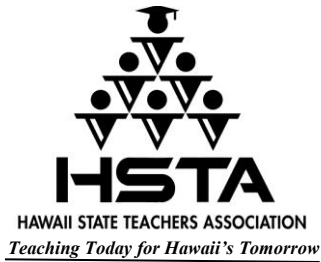
**PURPOSE OF BILL:**

Amends the board of education's membership by inviting the exclusive representative for bargaining unit (5) to appoint a nonvoting public school teacher representative to the board.

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee on Education:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) supports SB 340, to amend the Board of Education membership by adding a nonvoting public school teacher, appointed by bargaining unit 5. The HTSB would also ask the Committee to consider allowing the teacher member to become a full voting member in the future, if allowable by law.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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Corey Rosenlee  
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## TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: SB 340 - RELATING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **strongly supports SB 340**, relating to the Board of Education.

Teacher voice matters. Too often, educational governance decisions are made without the input of the Hawai'i's hardworking teachers, who are responsible for crafting our children's future. Yet, teachers are expected to carry out these decisions, each day, without fail and without being paid the professional salaries earned by their mainland peers.

Already, the Board of Education has nonvoting members representing the military community and the student community. Both members—currently Col. Peter Santa Ana from as the board's military liaison as well as David Texeria, a senior from Kauai High School, as the board's student representative—provide valuable insight into the experience of their constituencies with the public school system. Teachers, too, should be heard on matters ranging from curriculum development to testing to school funding. Policymakers often talk about improving learning conditions at the “classroom level.” No one is better equipped to discuss those conditions than the teachers who are tasked with managing the classroom experience.

To empower teacher voice in educational leadership, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

**SB-340**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 2:25:36 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/1/2019 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-340**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 9:56:49 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/1/2019 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cheryl	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

YES! And please go back to an elected school board so that the community has more say than the politics of the time.



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## COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Friday, February 1, 2019, 2:45, pm, Conference Room 229  
SB 340, RELATING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

### TESTIMONY

Janet Mason, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kim, and Committee Members:

**The League of Women Voters of Hawaii strongly opposes SB 340 that would amend the Board of Education membership by inviting the exclusive representative for bargaining unit 5 (teachers and other personnel of the Department of Education) to appoint a nonvoting public-school teacher representative to the Board.**

This measure would create an inherent conflict of interest between the Board of Education and the (HSTA), since the Board oversees labor negotiations with bargaining unit 5. Unfortunately, this conflict would exist even if the bargaining unit member were a nonvoting (but perhaps influential) member.

Another potential conflict concerns setting teacher standards. The Hawaii Teachers Standards Board (HTSB) was formed through the enactment of HRS 302A-801 in 2001 to provide impartial advice to the Department of Education and the Board of Education for decision-making on the critically important process of creating high standards to produce top-drawer public-school teachers within the Department of Education. A bargaining unit appointee to the Board of Education should not take part in such standard-setting.

Further, we believe it would take an amendment to Article X, Section 2 of our Constitution to make the change proposed in this measure. Why would voters endorse having the HSTA appoint someone to the Board? The voters of Hawaii passed a Constitutional amendment in 2010, allowing the Governor to appoint members of the Board of Education with the advice and consent of the senate.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.