

Written Only

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 02/07/2022

Time: 03:20 PM

Location: CR 229 + videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2512 RELATING TO THE SCHOOL FACILITIES
AUTHORITY.

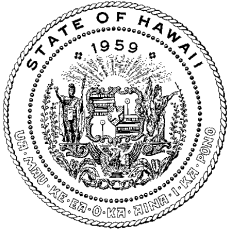
Purpose of Bill: Requires that in the event of a vacancy of the Executive Director of the School Facilities Authority, the assistant superintendent for the office of facilities and operations shall serve as the acting executive director until a new executive director is appointed and the senate advises and consents to the new executive director's nomination.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports SB 2512. This bill would allow for a degree of continuity of operations should the School Facilities Authority (SFA) executive director position become vacant.

The Department looks forward to working with the SFA in the development of new buildings and schools throughout the state. In the event of a vacancy in the SFA, having the Assistant Superintendent from the Department's Office of Facilities and Operations serve as acting executive director would ensure that projects and initiatives continue to progress.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill.



SCHOOL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

c/o 869 Punchbowl Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96813

IN REPLY REFER TO: **SB2512 EDU**

David Y. Ige
Governor

Alan Oshima
Chairperson

LATE

February 7, 2022
3:20 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

S.B. 2512 RELATING TO THE SCHOOL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

Senate Committee on Education

The School Facilities Authority (SFA) provides **comments** on this measure that proposes that when the position of the SFA executive director becomes vacant, the Department of Education Assistant Superintendent for the Office of Facilities and Operations shall serve as acting executive director until a new director is appointed and confirmed.

The SFA enabling legislation does not include such a process for filling this important vacancy when the position is vacant for an extended term. However, the SFA defers to the Department of Education to evaluate the feasibility of the Assistant Superintendent for Office of Facilities and Operations covering both positions and whether there are inherent conflicts therein. Currently, the SFA and the DOE are in the process of executing an agreement that temporarily delegates certain functions and duties from the SFA to the department until such time the executive director is appointed. This process may be an appropriate option in the future if there is a vacancy.

The SFA also notes that at its regular meeting on February 3, 2022, the board established a permitted working group to initiate the candidate search for its first executive director.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.