



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

Date: 04/01/2015

Time: 01:30 PM

Location: 211

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0011, HD2, SD1 RELATING TO TEACHERS.

Purpose of Bill: Authorizes an additional per year bonus for teachers who maintain current national board certification under the national board certification incentive program and teach at a school in a focus, priority, or superintendent's zone, as determined by the department of education. Authorizes an additional per year bonus through the end date of a teacher's national board certification, for teachers who received a bonus for teaching at a school in a focus, priority, or superintendent's zone school under the national board certification incentive program, and continue teaching at that school after the school is no longer so classified. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) strongly supports HB 0011, HD2, SD1.

The proposed revisions to subsections (a)(2) and (a)(4)(A) of Hawaii Revised Statutes section 302A-706, as reflected in Section 1, page 1, line 12 and page 2, lines 5-8 of HB 0011, HD2, SD1 delete outdated terms and update the statutory language to reflect the Department's current Strive HI accountability index.



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

650 IWILEI ROAD, SUITE 201
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PERSON TESTIFYING: Lynn Hammonds, Executive Director

DATE: Wednesday, April 1, 2015

TIME: 1:30 PM

LOCATION: State Capitol Conference Room 211

TITLE OF BILL: HB11 HD2 SD1 RELATING TO TEACHERS

PURPOSE OF BILL: Authorizes an additional per year bonus for teachers who maintain current National Board Certification under the National Board Certification Incentive Program and teach at a school in a focus, priority, or Superintendent's Zone, as determined by the Department of Education. Authorizes an additional per year bonus through the end date of a teacher's national board certification, for teachers who received a bonus for teaching at a school in a focus, priority, or superintendent's zone school under the national board certification incentive program, and continue teaching at that school after the school is no longer so classified. (HB11 HD2 SD1)

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) **strongly supports** HB11 HD2 SD1 so that Hawaii National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT) who teach in a focus, priority or superintendent's zone school may receive an additional bonus, as well as for those teachers who receive the bonus and continue teaching at a school once it is no longer so classified.

In addition, the HTSB encourages your committee to enlarge the scope of this bill to include Hawaii charter school teachers who attain NBCT certification so that teachers in all Hawaii public schools are recognized and rewarded for their exemplary work with Hawaii's students.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Ronald Kouchi, Vice Chair

April 1, 2015

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for HB11 HD2, SD1, which authorizes an additional per year bonus for teachers who maintain current board certification and teach at schools in a focus, priority or superintendent's zone under the National Board Certification Incentive Program.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

The Coalition understands that teacher quality is considered to be one of the most influential factors in student achievement. National board certification is rigorous and allows teachers to analyze and improve their practice. We believe it is important to continue to reward teachers who voluntarily undergo this process.

Regarding the additional bonus, we agree that the incentive should be directed to national board certified teachers who are at schools in a focus, priority or superintendent's zone, schools with a high turnover rate, and schools that are hard to fill as determined by the Department.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

Academy 21
After-School All-Stars Hawaii
Alliance for Place Based Learning
*Castle Complex Community Council
*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS
Coalition for Children with Special Needs
*Faith Action for Community Equity
Fresh Leadership LLC
Girl Scouts Hawaii
*Good Beginnings Alliance
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
*Hawai'i Charter School Network
*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
*Hawaii State PTSA
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
Head Start Collaboration Office
It's All About Kids
*INPEACE
Joint Venture Education Forum
Junior Achievement of Hawaii
*Kaho'omiki
Kamehameha Schools
Kanu Hawai'i
*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council
Keiki to Career Kaua'i
Kupu A'e
*Leaders for the Next Generation
Learning First
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds
Our Public School
*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning
*Parents and Children Together
*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i
Punahou School PUEO Program

Teach for America

The Learning Coalition

US PACOM

University of Hawai'i College of Education

YMCA of Honolulu

Voting Members () Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Nancy Laukea and I am a National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT) currently working at Pahoa High and Intermediate on the Big Island as a Special Education Science Teacher. I am writing in support of SB847 SD1.

Passage of this bill is of the utmost importance for the following reasons:

1. National Board Certification is an indicator of excellence. Teacher quality has long been recognized as an indicator for student success and achievement. The National Board process is rigorous and demanding. It challenges each teacher to provide evidence of his or her exemplary teaching quality. Upon successfully earning the certification, teachers should be provided a financial reward for doing so.
 2. Teachers who would like to earn certification deserve to be supported. Many teachers covet this certification but are unable to pursue it due to expensive application fees. This measure would provide a financial incentive for teachers to pursue this certification knowing that they would be all/partially reimbursed upon successful completion of the process.
 3. Struggling schools need NBCTs. Under the provisions of this bill, teachers who teach at high-turnover, Focus, Priority, Superintendent's Zone, or Title I schools would receive an additional financial incentive, even once a school loses its classification. This is an important provision because it rewards teachers for their longevity at and commitment to a struggling school, where teacher leaders are sorely needed to help motivate students and staff toward continuous school improvement.
2. Personally, I meet all of the above mentioned criteria. I teach at Pahoa High and Intermediate on the Big Island. I am a single mother who has raised two boys alone for the past 20 years. During that time I have gone from being on Food Stamps/Quest to earning my teaching degree, Master's Degree, and National Board Certification. I have been named Teacher of the Year at my school and in 2012 I became District Teacher of the Year for Hawaii Island. I have earned the first ever presented Green Ribbon for our school, and I have successfully taken numerous Pahoa students (both regular and special education students to our District and State Science Fairs. I tell you all this because I have worked hard to better myself and provide a life for my sons. When Gov. Abercrombie decided to cut teachers' salaries to balance the budget – I had to make a hard choice – pay my electric bill or put away money for my retirement. As I started late in this career (after age 40) I now do not have a retirement plan to fall back on when and if I do retire years from now. At 53 I had to borrow money from my parents (ages 83 and 94) to apply to attain my National Certification, and I had to reimburse them with my tax refunds for the past two years. I have lived through 2 weeks of no power from Iselle, the June 27th lava flow aiming at my home and my work, and recently another 5 days of power loss due to falling Albezia trees. Not receiving this additional funds feels like it would be the straw that broke the camel's back.
 3. My intent was to take the money I was promised as supplemental incentive for working at a "hard to fill" school and begin investing this toward a retirement plan. I am asking you to very carefully consider the passage of this bill as it has a direct impact on my life and that of my sons.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at

Nancy laukea

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