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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2806 on Feb 27, 2014 09:05AM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 27, 2014 9:52:11 AM

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**SB2806**

Submitted on: 2/27/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2014 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I do not support raising the salary. I believe the people that are in civil service should have a decent not outrageous salary. \$100,000 cap on all educators and state agents. I say this because its farther from the \$25,000 salary that a lot of people make, money changes the game.

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Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator David Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

February 25, 2014

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for SB2806, adjusting the salary cap of the Superintendent of Education.

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 supports the raising the salary cap of the Superintendent of education. The data comparing the 15th largest districts by student population on annual Superintendent salary is quite compelling (see attachment). Hawaii's Superintendent Salary at \$150,000 is by far the lowest salary among the 15 comparable districts; next Superintendent salary above Hawaii starts at \$225,000, with the other districts exceeding that and more. As a state, we have placed much responsibility on our Superintendent and we expect them to deliver a high quality education system for all public school students in the state. As the leader of the state's largest employer and the responsibility of over 180,000 students, it is critical that we have the best possible person in this position. Compensation is major factor in our ability to attract the most qualified candidates for this position. It is unacceptable that we pay our Superintendent nearly 50% less than their peers in other comparable school districts.

Additionally, according to a Civil Beat article, our state Superintendent's salary does not even make the top 10 of highest paid state employees, with salary ranges from \$295,000 to 189,000.<sup>1</sup> Nor does it compete with dean's salary at University of Hawaii. As of May 2012, the University of Hawaii dean of education was paid \$199,368 and the dean of architecture's salary was \$188,520.<sup>2</sup> The UH football coach's salary is \$550,000.<sup>3</sup>

Parents, families and the community want to see the best quality leadership for our schools. We are in a unique situation, with one state and one district, serving all students in Hawaii.

We want to be able to attract quality candidates to lead our state education system with salaries competitive with other comparable districts in the nation. We urge you to support this bill.

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

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<sup>1</sup> Nanea Kalani, "Hawaii State Salaries 2012: Highest Paid Employees," *Civil Beat*, 09/20/2011

<sup>2</sup> Keoki Kerr, "New UH Librarian's \$195K salary brings criticism," *Hawaii News Now*, last updated 03/18/2013

<sup>3</sup> Sara Lin, "UH Football Coach Norm Chow Releases His Salary," *Civil Beat*, 01/10/2012

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

HE'E Member List

Academy 21  
After-School All-Stars Hawaii  
Alliance for Place Based Learning  
\*Castle Complex Community Council  
Center for Civic Education  
Coalition for Children with Special Needs  
\*DOE Windward District  
\*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  
Kamehameha Schools  
Kanu Hawai'i  
Keiki to Career  
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 (\*)

City Public Schools with a student population of 1,036,053 through the 15<sup>th</sup> largest public school system, Wake County Schools with a student population of 149,508.

Ranking	School District	Salary	Additional Compensation
1	New York City Public Schools	\$250,000.00	
2	Los Angeles Unified School District	\$330,000.00	Car/driver, bonus if student and graduation rates rise
3	Chicago Public Schools	\$250,000.00	
4	Miami-Dade County Public Schools	\$275,000.00 - \$320,000	
5	Clark County School District (Las Vegas, Nevada)	\$250,000.00 bonus up to \$20,000	Life insurance; paid \$4,000 after hours pay; 31 days vacation, car allowance
6	Broward County Public Schools (Fort Lauderdale, Florida)	\$290,000.00	\$77,800
7	Houston Independent School District	\$300,000.00	
8	Hillsborough County Public Schools (Tampa, Florida)	\$257,958.00	
9	Hawaii Public Schools	\$150,000.00	
10	Orange County Public Schools (Orlando, Florida)	\$230,000.00	
11	Fairfax County Public Schools (Fairfax, Virginia)	\$292,000.00	Deferred comp \$15,000
12	Palm Beach County School District (Palm Beach, Florida)	\$225,000.00	
13	Gwinnett County Public Schools (North Atlanta, Georgia)	\$387,934.00	\$18,000 transportation allowance; retirement supplement
14	Dallas Independent School District	\$328,000.00	Up to \$75,000 per annum-performance bonus, up to 3 prof membership, student based incentive \$125,000, retention incentive \$50,000, travel expenses for District business, \$500 car allowance in lieu of mileage, cell phone \$250, term life ins. \$500,000, \$10,000 moving expenses, \$6,000 transition expenses, \$1,000,000 liability insurance
15	Wake County Schools (Raleigh, North Carolina)	\$275,000.00	\$16,500 for retirement, \$1,100/per day up to 10 consulting days, provide security if appropriate

B. Previous action of the Board on the same or similar matter

The following are Board actions taken on salary adjustments:

1. The last across the board salary adjustment for the Deputy Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents and Complex Area Superintendents was in 2006 until just recently on September 17, 2013, this Board approved salary adjustments for these employees.
2. On June 19, 2012, the Board amended Board Policy 1310-4 to ensure that the minimum annual salary for a tenured educational officer appointed to the Deputy, Complex Area or Assistant Superintendent position shall be no less