

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

April 3, 2019

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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

DATE: April 5, 2019

TIME: 10:10 AM

LOCATION: Conference Room 211

TITLE OF BILL: HB 1070 HD1 Proposed SD1, RELATING TO EDUCATION

PURPOSE OF BILL: Provides that a public school shall not be required by the Department of Education to expend its own school funds to maintain any geographically disadvantaged land on or adjacent to its property. Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. Effective 7/1/2050. (Proposed SD1)

POSITION: Strong Support

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) strongly supports HB 1070 HD1 Proposed SD1, to appropriate funds for personnel and operations of the HTSB.

The HTSB has served the State as its licensing board for Hawaii teachers, school counselors, and school librarians since 2003, when it assumed responsibility for approval of educator preparation programs, licensure, and professional development.

In 2012, HTSB became dependent solely on its Special Fund generated by license fees, but since that time negotiated salary, fringe benefits, and operational costs have outpaced income from the \$54 annual license fee. To ensure it stayed within budget, HTSB took drastic steps including reducing staff from 13 to 5.5. Our staff serve Hawaii's 12,000 public school teachers as they apply for licenses, add new teaching fields, and renew their licenses or permits. We reduced our office space in Dole Cannery to one-fourth of its original size, as state owned office space was not available to us. We also eliminated statewide National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) candidate support and reduced efforts to develop new alternative routes to licensure because staff were stretched thin.

Despite these limitations, the HTSB has continued to reform requirements that encourage interested individuals to become licensed teachers. We developed full licensure reciprocity with all other states, DoDEA schools, and the organized territories, as well as for teachers professionally prepared in non-US countries. HTSB has also worked with the Department of Education (DOE) and State Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center to develop special permits and licenses to support individuals who want to teach in the areas of CTE, Computer, STEM, and Hawaiian Immersion, as they work toward full licensure. It is also an early adopter of the national Model Code of Ethics for Educators, the first code of its type for the profession.

In 2015, as part of the negotiated HSTA-DOE agreement, the DOE assumed responsibility for paying the license fee for all tenured teachers who had an effective or better rating on their last evaluation. The DOE currently pays over \$500,000 each year in license fees to HTSB for their tenured teachers. However, new untenured teachers and those who teach in Hawaii Charter Schools were not covered under this agreement. If HTSB is fully funded by the Legislature, there will not be a need to charge any teacher a license or permit fee, and this will benefit not only individual teachers, but the DOE as well.

The HTSB welcomes the opportunity to renew its efforts to increase alternative pathways to licensure, including “Grow Your Own” and substitute teacher pathways to increase the number of licensed teachers and address the teacher shortage; to enhancing the HTSB online licensure application process so it is seamless and allows both in and out of state teachers to become licensed efficiently; to offering statewide training on the new Model Code of Ethics for Educators; and to resuming full support for National Board candidates in all complexes.

We humbly thank you for your amendment and consideration of this bill and are grateful for the opportunity to testify and ask you to support funding for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, so we can support Hawaii’s teachers.



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

Date: 04/05/2019
Time: 10:10 AM
Location: 211
Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: HB 1070, SD1 PROPOSED RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Provides that a public school shall not be required by the Department of Education to expend its own school funds to maintain any geographically disadvantageous land on or adjacent to its property. Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. Effective 7/1/2050. (Proposed SD1)

Department's Position:

For HB 1070, SD1 PROPOSED, the Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of Section 1 and 2, which relate to maintenance of geographically disadvantageous land; and supports Section 3 and 4, which relates to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

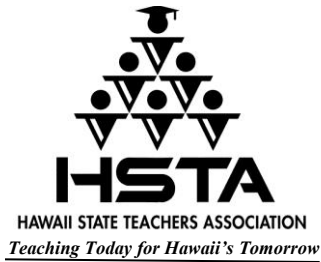
With regards to Section 1 and 2, major grounds maintenance activities are not the responsibility of the school administration, however, additional funding is required to provide for the service. The Department notes that grounds maintenance of streams and rough terrain is beyond the capability of our maintenance crews. This type of maintenance activity would need to be contracted for and therefore requires an increase in our operating budget to allow for it.

With regards to Section 3 and 4, the proposal would provide sufficient and direct general fund support needed for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to fulfill its core function of administering the licensing of teachers statewide. The proposal would also support the Teacher Standards Board's efforts to provide quality programs and services to teachers, including support for National Board Certification and other training statewide.

Thank you for the 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.



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LATE

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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

RE: HB 1070, HD1, Proposed SD1 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2019

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **strongly supports HB 1070, HD1, Proposed SD1**, relating to education.

Since 2012, the HTSB has tried to operate solely on license fees, but with rising costs, the proposed new section in this bill, Part II, Section 3, will allow HTSB to fully fund and expand their programs and services to teachers. The passage of this bill will also allow HTSB to not have to charge a license/permit fee to teachers. This will help our new teachers who are not currently covered under the DOE tenured teacher fee payment. HTSB will also be able to restart their vital support for our teachers pursuing National Board Certification as well as offer other training statewide to teachers as well as “Grow Your Own” licensure options and offer other support.

All of these supports will help our teachers, thus the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks that your committee to **support** HB 1070, HD1, Proposed SD1.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



JOHN S.S. KIM
CHAIRPERSON



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

FOR: HB 1070 HD1 Proposed SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION
DATE: April 5, 2019
TIME: 10:10 A.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Ways & Means
ROOM: Conference Room 211
FROM: Sione Thompson, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony **in SUPPORT of HB1070 HD1 Proposed SD1**, specifically Part II of the proposed Senate Draft 1 which allocates general funds to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB).

HTSB has been a dependable partner with the Commission and a valuable resource for public charter schools in understanding and meeting teacher licensure requirements. The Commission appreciates the efforts made by HTSB in servicing public charter schools and looks forward to continued collaboration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

LATE

TO: SENATE WAYS and MEANS COMMITTEE
APRIL 5, 2019
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

BILL# HB 1070 HD 1

TESTIMONY OF: Benjamin Parker Elementary School
45-259 Waikalua Road
Kaneohe, HI 96744

SUBMITTED BY: Ms. Kathy Kahikina, Principal
Mrs. Cory DeJesus, Administrative Services Assistant, Castle Complex

TESTIMONY:

Benjamin Parker Elementary School has been burdened with the responsibility of the maintenance and cleaning of the Auwai stream behind our school. There is tremendous overgrowth of bushes, trees, palms, and other landscape not only in the Auwai, but also on both sides of the retaining walls. Our custodians do their best to maintain our landscaping as time allows, however the steep embankment toward the Auwai makes it very unsafe to do so.

Overgrowth has provided many opportunities for the Auwai to overflow onto neighboring properties. Property owners call at all hours during rainstorms hoping for some help. What help can we give them with only limited man power, and hand tools. Neighbors complaints to our legislatures and local media just makes us feel even more helpless. Mature trees and palms exceed the height of more than 30 feet, thus showering the area with green waste. Even if we had a crew of 3 more full-time custodians who did nothing but maintain and clear the Auwai, the manpower still wouldn't be enough.

We have sought help by hiring the WCCC work line however, we are only able to bring them on campus during non-student days like fall, spring, winter and summer breaks. Each time we bring the work line, the cost is a minimum of \$100 for lunches when hired for 4 hrs, or several thousand when they are hired for a day.

Expenditure costs exceeded more than \$12,000 for the 2017 year. This expense comes out of the school's Weighted Student Formula of state allocated funding, and increases each year.

Besides having insufficient man power, our school does not have the proper equipment to maintain such an area, nor does the Auwai's design provide appropriate space for maintenance equipment. The mature trees that line the Auwai drop green waste daily, yet the school is the one who has to clean it up. Neighboring properties with mature trees do nothing to maintain their own green waste. No one is telling those owners to pick up their green waste.

Our custodial crew has observed numerous homeless individuals living in and adjacent to the Auwai, often finding human waste. We are tasked with it's cleaning, but we have no control over what materials and substances wash down from upstream.

As Benjamin Parker maintains an enrollment of over 400 students, it's the student's health and safety that is our priority and we have that control within our interior school environment.

Please release our school from a maintenance responsibility we have no control over. We have no control over the water that comes downstream, we have no control over the neighboring properties, and we have no control over individuals who knowingly or unknowingly pollute the Auwai.

Respectfully yours,

Kathy Kahikina
Principal

Cory DeJesus
Administrative Services Assistant
Castle Complex Schools