

SB 1096

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Date of Decision Making: March 2, 2009

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Title: S.B. No. 1096, S.D. 1 (SSCR 377), Relating to Technology Workforce and Development

Purpose: Appropriates funds for science, technology, engineering, and math-related programs and K-12 creative media education programs.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (DOE) supports S.B. No. 1096, S.D. 1 (SSCR 377) provided it does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Biennium Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. It is in Hawaii's best interest to continue the expansion of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)-related programs, Research Experiences for Teachers (RET), and the K-12 creative media education programs. The Department recommends that STEM-related programs be expanded to include Career and Technical Education pathways. On page seven, section 6, the Department asks that the Legislature consider reinstating the support for K-12 STEM-related programs in addition to the K-12 after-school creative media education initiatives.