



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

**Date:** 02/26/2015  
**Time:** 03:00 PM  
**Location:** 308  
**Committee:** House Finance

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 1349, HD1 RELATING TO TEACHER TENURE.

**Purpose of Bill:** Sets probationary period of specified licensed charter school teachers according to policies and practices as determined by DOE, BOE, and collective bargaining agreements. Subjects tenured DOE licensed teachers who transfer to charter schools to the appropriate collective bargaining agreement. (HB1349 HD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports H.B. 1349, H.D. 1. The proposed revision to subsection (d) (2) allows the Department to align probationary requirements for all incoming teachers. It corrects the existing inequity where a licensed charter school teacher may enter or return to the Department and gain tenure after only one year, whereas licensed Department teachers must serve three years of probation.

The proposed revision also ensures that there is sufficient time for principals to observe and provide assistance and support to probationary teachers before awarding tenure, which ultimately supports the goals of improving student achievement, instructional practices, and overall professionalism.

DAVID IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE  
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 1349 HD1 Relating to Teacher Tenure  
DATE: Thursday, February 26, 2015  
TIME: 3:00 p.m.  
COMMITTEE(S): House Committee on Finance  
ROOM: Conference Room 308  
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director  
State Public Charter School Commission

---

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit these written comments on House Bill 1349 HD1, “Relating to Teacher Tenure,” which sets the probationary period for licensed teachers who are not yet tenured in the Department of Education (“Department”) and are entering or returning to the Department after employment at a public charter school in accordance with policies and practices determined by the Department, Board of Education, and collective bargaining agreements.

While the Commission does not take a position on this legislation, our understanding from the Department is that this measure is needed to ensure that, under the longer probationary period established under the collective bargaining agreement with the Hawaii State Teachers Association (“HSTA”), a public charter school teacher transferring to a Department school does not enjoy an unfair advantage as to his or her probationary status relative to a teacher who has served for the same period of time in the Department. Assuming that the proposed change would not place an experienced public charter school teacher at an unfair disadvantage as to his or her probationary status in the Department, this would seem appropriate. We have communicated this to HSTA, which represents both DOE and charter school teachers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

**FIN-Jo**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 24, 2015 10:22 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** ukotner@mindspring.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1349 on Feb 26, 2015 15:00PM\*

**HB1349**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 26, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

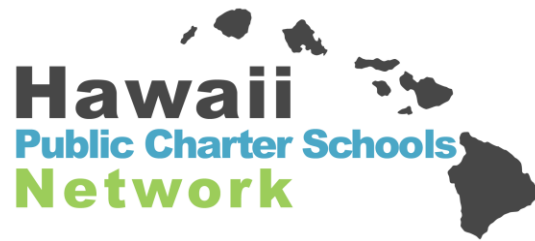
<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Usha Kotner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**LATE**



State of Hawaii House of Representatives  
Committee on Finance

DATE: Thursday, February 26, 2015  
TIME: 3:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 308, Hawaii State Capitol

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee,

Re: HB 1349 HD1 RELATING TO TEACHER TENURE

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of HB 1349 HD1, a bill that sets the probationary period of specified licensed charter school teachers according to policies and practices as determined by DOE, BOE, and collective bargaining agreements and subjects tenured DOE licensed teachers who transfer to charter schools to the appropriate collective bargaining agreement.

Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network (HPCSN) represents 30 of 34 public charter schools in Hawaii and is committed to quality education for all public school students through our support of, and work with, charter schools. Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this very important matter to charter schools. Your support of Hawaii's public students is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Finnegan".

Lynn Finnegan  
Executive Director