

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/27/2024

Time: 03:00 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Education
Senate Higher Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Resolution Title: SCR 0098 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PARTNER WITH THE HAWAII STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION AND TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES TO PROVIDE PATHWAYS FOR SCHOOL SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO BECOME FULL-TIME TEACHERS.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SCR 98.

The resolution requests the Department to partner with the Hawaii State Teachers' Association (HSTA) and local teacher education programs to provide pathways for school support personnel to become full-time teachers.

This resolution aligns with the Department's 2023-2029 Strategic Plan, Priority II, Goal 2.1 to ensure that all students are taught by effective teachers who are committed to quality teaching and learning for all. Specifically, Department action item 5c., which calls for the expansion of grow-our-own efforts with local partners targeting educational assistants and other support staff to become teachers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SCR 98.



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TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAI'I SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Item: **SCR98 - Requesting the DOE to partner with HSTA and teacher education programs to provide pathways for school-support personnel to become full-time teachers**

Position: **Support**

Hearing: **March 27, 2024, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 229**

Submitter: **Osa Tui, Jr. – President, Hawai'i State Teachers Association**

Chair Kidani, Chair Kim, and members of the committees,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association **supports** SCR98 which requests the Department of Education to partner with the Hawai'i State Teachers Association and teacher education programs at local universities and colleges to provide pathways for school-support personnel to become full-time teachers.

Teacher recruitment is vital to ensure that our keiki have the best possible education to prepare them for the future. To that end, any work that can be done towards increasing successful teacher recruitment, especially from within our own ranks, should be examined. Educational Assistants (EAs) and other support-personnel in our schools are vital to the functioning of our schools and the success of our keiki. Many EAs would be interested in becoming full-time teachers, however, life circumstances often make taking that next step an impossible task.

HSTA currently meets multiple times a year with the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC) which brings together many of the stakeholders named in this resolution. HRS §304A-1202 specifically tasks the TECC to “(1) Work out problems related to the development of strong teacher training programs at accredited institutions of higher learning in Hawaii; and (2) Identify, study, and discuss educational problems or other educational matters of interest to the committee and to develop findings and make recommendations for the improvement of education in Hawaii.”

It should not be difficult for the DOE to partner with the TECC, which includes the HSTA and teacher education programs at local universities and colleges, to further explore pathways for school-support personnel to become full-time teachers.

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this resolution.

SCR-98

Submitted on: 3/25/2024 7:30:18 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/27/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jo-Anne Aiwohi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of Bill SCR98. This would be a great partnership for everyone.