



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**Executive Office on Early Learning**  
2759 South King Street  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

February 11, 2019

**TO:** Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
Representative Mark J. Hashem, Vice-Chair, Lower Education  
Representative Amy A. Perruso, Vice-Chair, Higher Education  
House Committee on Lower & Higher Education

**FROM:** Lauren Moriguchi, Director  
Executive Office on Early Learning

**SUBJECT: Measure:** H.B. No. 245 – RELATING TO EDUCATION  
**Hearing Date:** February 12, 2019  
**Time:** 2:15 p.m.  
**Location:** Room 309

**Bill Description:** Expands the powers of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to include approving professional development courses and programs necessary for teacher reclassification.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: Support**

Good afternoon. I am Lauren Moriguchi, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL is in support of H.B. 245.

EOEL is statutorily responsible for the development of the State's early childhood system that shall ensure a spectrum of high-quality development and learning opportunities for children throughout the state, from prenatal care until the time they enter kindergarten, with priority given to underserved or at-risk children.

Early childhood education is a specialized field of knowledge and a specialized profession. Hawaii has a severely limited workforce of qualified early childhood educators (i.e., those with coursework and background in early childhood, and supported with ongoing professional development, who research shows are most effective).

- As the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program stands now with 26 classrooms, we have difficulty recruiting and turnover is high (when teachers have not completed coursework in early childhood education and their assumptions about pre-K teaching are inconsistent with the knowledge and competencies required of teachers in settings for preschool-aged children).
- Because the Program targets our underserved and at-risk children, it is especially important to have teachers who are able to support preschoolers and families living in difficult circumstances. If not, what may result are increased instances of stress-induced behavior problems and inappropriate referrals to special education. Nationally, suspensions and expulsions occur at a rate 3 times higher in public pre-K than in K-12.

When vulnerable children encounter teachers who are unprepared to support their developmental needs, these children who can benefit the most from early learning are rejected at an even earlier age and their families are left without options.

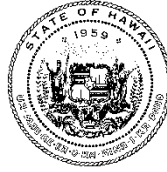
It is imperative that as EOEL administers the EOEL Public Pre-K Program, it continues to provide the ongoing professional development that teachers and principals have expressed they need to effectively implement a pre-K classroom.

We believe this measure would provide a mechanism for vetting professional development offerings in early childhood education. This would help lend the assurance of consistency and quality.

If this measure is enacted, we hope there is consideration for the following:

- Alignment of professional development objectives, content, and assessment with the professional standards appropriate to the discipline.
- Requirement that professional development providers have expertise in the field of study and age group for which they are providing training (e.g., degrees in the discipline/field or specialty area, and teaching experience in the age group).
- Requirement that professional development providers demonstrate competency designing, implementing, and evaluating adult learning in professional learning experiences.
- Appropriate expertise and qualification requirements for the individuals who will be assessing practitioner experiences and evaluating portfolio evidence.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.



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

February 10, 2019

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOWER & HIGHER EDUCATION**

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

**DATE:** February 12, 2019

**TIME:** 2:15 pm

**LOCATION:** Conference Room 309

**TITLE OF BILL:** HB 245 RELATING TO EDUCATION

**PURPOSE OF BILL:** Expands the powers of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to include approving professional development courses and programs necessary for teacher reclassification.

**POSITION:** Support with Comments

**Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Perruso, and Members of the House Committee on Lower & Higher Education:**

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) supports HB 245, as participating in efforts relating to teacher quality, professional development, and promotion of high teacher standards and accomplished teaching are already responsibilities assigned to the HTSB.

The HTSB is eager to enhance its efforts to support high quality teaching by adding the responsibility to approve professional development courses and programs necessary for teacher reclassification.

The HTSB has been diligent in controlling its operational expenses to stay within its limited special fund budget by downsizing its office space and reducing staff each year since 2012, when it became solely funded by the HTSB special fund. However, these cuts have also meant that our office has needed to limit the scope of services and support to Hawaii teachers, school counselors, and school librarians as they seek licensure in Hawaii.

Due to this limitation, we would ask the Committee to add one specialist position to HTSB staff with the passage of HB 245, so that adequate time and careful attention can be given to the approval and deployment of all professional development coursework, programs, and support, not only to uphold the HTSB's teacher performance standards, but to meet the needs of Hawaii's students through accomplished teaching.

Thank you for your support and for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



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

**LATE**

**Date:** 02/12/2019

**Time:** 02:15 PM

**Location:** 309

**Committee:** House Lower & Higher  
Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 0245 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Expands the powers of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to include approving professional development courses and programs necessary for teacher reclassification.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) appreciates the intent of HB 245 and respectfully provides comments.

Currently, the Department is responsible for the professional development (PDE3) credit course approval system in which teachers are eligible to earn reclassification credits towards qualifying for a salary adjustment.

Beginning in December 2018, the Department convened a monthly work group to update procedures and guidelines for the PDE3 course system. This ongoing work group is comprised of representatives from the Hawaii State Teachers Association and Department personnel including the Deputy Superintendent, complex area superintendents, teachers, and complex area and state level resource staff.

Professional development for teachers is essential to building capacity in response to the ever-changing demands of the teaching workforce and context. Through high quality PreK-12 learning opportunities, educators integrate skills, knowledge and tools critical to enhance their performance and enable outcomes for each and every student.

The Department values its partnership with Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB). As proposed in HB 245, expanding HTSB's responsibility to include approval of professional development courses will require a thoughtful dialogue regarding operational, resource, and implementation considerations.

The Department respectfully defers to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board for additional

comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 245.

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](http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org).



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
LOWER & HIGHER EDUCATION

RE: HB 245 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2019

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Woodson, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports** HB 245, relating to education.

HB 723 would expand the powers of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to include approving professional development courses and programs necessary for teacher reclassification.

The Hawaii State Teachers Association believes that the professional development courses should be approved by Hawaii Teacher Standards Board and not the Department of Education. The reason for this is that the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board is the entity that certifies teachers and they are in better position to know what courses meet the current teaching standards required. This move will streamline the process.

The Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** HB 245.

**HB-245**

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 4:26:14 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/12/2019 2:15:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments: