



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

**Senate Committee on Education**

Friday, February 1, 2019  
2:45 p.m.  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229

**Senate Bill 84, Making an Appropriation to the Department of Education**

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee:

The Board of Education ("Board") would like to testify in support of SB 84, which would appropriate funds to the Department of Education for a Board Analyst II.

Prior to the appointed Board, the Board's support office employed approximately nine to 13 individuals on full and part-time bases. Currently, the Board's support office consists of three permanent positions and one temporary position. Over the past few years, the duties of the Board's support office have increased along with the Board's initiatives, including evening meetings, processes to improve transparency and accessibility, a more comprehensive evaluation of the Superintendent, and initiatives to implement a system for multiple charter school authorizers.

The Board anticipates this trend of increasing duties to continue into the near future as the Board continues to look for ways to improve in fulfilling its responsibilities. The Board would like to hold neighbor island meetings, which will increase the duties of staff. The Board is also in the process of implementing charter school law and developing a system for multiple charter school authorizers, which includes an annual application process for charter school authorizers and the evaluation and oversight of multiple charter school authorizers. This new system creates an additional set of duties and responsibilities that Board support staff will have to fulfill in addition to the existing workload.

The Board's work requiring data and/or evaluation expertise has experienced a considerable uptick, and the Board has shown interest in expanding this kind of work, including improving the evaluation of the State Librarian and data analysis related to policymaking to assist the Board with more data-driven decision making. A Board Analyst II with a particular focus on evaluative work and data analysis will provide the Board's support office with the capacity and expertise to adequately support the Board in its current and planned endeavors, which would in turn benefit the public through better decision-making and increased access and transparency, a strategic priority of the Board.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of the Board.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Payne  
Chairperson, Board of Education  
Chairperson, 2019 Legislative Ad Hoc Committee