## SB 1665

## WRITTEN COMMENTS

Date of Decision Making: February 27, 2009

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department:

Education

Person Testifying:

Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title:

S.B. No. 1665, S.D. 1 (SSCR 283) Relating to Higher Education

Purpose:

Enhances the training capacity of Hawaii's community colleges by

establishing a skilled worker and business development center to

provide workforce training to meet the rapidly evolving needs of

both employers and employees; appropriates Reed Act funds.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education recognizes the importance of

developing a skilled workforce for business sustainability.

However, the Department defers to Hawaii's community colleges,

the identified expending agency, as to funding priority.