

LATE TESTIMONY

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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND HOUSING

RE: SB 730 – RELATING TO TEACHER HOUSING. `

February 6, 2009

ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB 730 which establishes an affordable housing program and a second mortgage revolving fund for public school teachers and appropriates funds for the second mortgage loans for public school teachers.

HSTA appreciates the Legislature's acknowledgement of the teacher shortage that currently exists. We agree that the issue of teacher housing is a priority in order to strengthen recruitment and retention of teachers. We believe this bill will assist in the state's efforts to recruit and retain teachers by establishing a second mortgage revolving fund for the purchase of a home.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify.