

Date: 03/30/2011

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 230 / HR201 Replace Hawaii State Assessment with ACT Exam.

Purpose of Resolution:

Department's Position: Opposes

The Department of Education is in opposition to H.R. No. 201 and H.C.R. No. 230.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires that all students in grades 3-8 and a designated high school grade must take a statewide assessment annually in reading, mathematics, and science. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, the Hawaii State Assessment (HSA), is a computer adaptive online assessment that provides students with up to three opportunities to meet proficiency. The HSA measures a student's progress on meeting the expectations of the state adopted standards.

The Online Hawaii State Assessment requires that a student take at least one opportunity for each content area of reading, mathematics and for grades 4, 8 and 10 in science, but a student may take the Online HSA for each content area up to three times during the testing window (October – May). Allowing a student to take the Online HSA multiple times throughout the school year provides administrators, teachers, and other school level staff with results that can be utilized to adjust instructional strategies during the year. The school administrator, teachers, and designated staff are also able to view student results immediately through the Performance Reports application of the HSA Online Reporting System on the HSA website (alohahas.org). The Report provides individual, classroom, and school content strand reports. In addition, once a student has completed and submitted their test, the results are immediately displayed on the computer screen for the student to view.

The projection is that this mode of administration will reduce the cost drastically over the next three years for the assessment after the initial cost of development and programming.

Test Coordinators and teachers will be able to view student results through the Performance Reports application of the Online Reporting System. Student results are immediate and teachers, administrators, and school counselors are able to access a student's test results immediately through an online report.

Thank you for allowing the Department of Education to submit testimony in opposition to H.R. No. 201 and H.C.R. No. 230.