LATE SB 1278

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Committee:	Senate Higher Education
Date:	January 31. 2013
Re:	SB 1278 Relating to Education

Mr. Chairperson, I am Joan Lee Husted, the former executive director of the Hawaii State Teachers Association and a member of the HEPC Senior Advisory Group.

I am submitting this testimony in support of SB 1218. Because of the critical importance that education has in our community, the role of the Hawaii Educational Policy Center continues to be of high value. Having an agency such as this to objectively research and evaluate education issues is essential so all parties can make key and important decisions for Hawaii's citizens based on objective data and evaluation. During my tenure at HSTA, I found many of the reports of the Center to be invaluable because of their emphasis on education in Hawaii. The research quality was first rate and the depth of the work impressive.

SB 1278 provides will help build capacity in order to continue to provide service to Hawaii's decision makers. I strongly urge the passage of SB 1278.

Respectfully Submitted

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