



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

Date: 02/26/2015
Time: 11:00 AM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1230, HD1 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes an interagency working group to create a comprehensive plan to transfer the Department of Accounting and General Services's personnel and functions related to neighbor island public schools, to the Department of Education. (HB1230 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (DOE) supports this bill as it provides for a framework for continued discussions and revisions to be made to the requirements of Act 51. Although the implementation of most of Act 51's requirements occurred nearly 10 years ago, issues continue to arise, and adjustments or revisions continue to be necessary as situations change.

This includes the final resolution of how to accommodate the needs of the neighbor island schools so that service levels are consistent statewide. The DOE requests an appropriation of \$100,000 per year to underwrite the cost of travel and other operational expenses for this working group.

The changes to the composition of the working group members made in HD1 are aligned with the composition of the original working group of Act 51.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
FINANCE
ON
FEBRUARY 26, 2015

H.B. 1230, H.D. 1

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Chair Luke and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on H.B. 1230, H.D. 1. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports H.B. 1230, H.D. 1 for the following reasons:

1. We have been working collaboratively with the Department of Education (DOE) to implement a statewide service level agreement to ensure that school work order repair performance will be the same regardless of what island the school is located on. DAGS' neighbor island school repair operations will be adopting the performance metric currently used by DOE Facility Maintenance operations. This will provide the reporting mechanism to measure DAGS performance on the same level as the DOE facilities operations so an equitable and objective evaluation can be made.
2. In addition to the school repair and maintenance functions for 93 schools, DAGS is also responsible for the repair and maintenance of the 50 state

facilities and 28 public libraries on the neighbor islands. With the 171 facilities DAGS is responsible for, utilization of the trade crews are maximized. If the neighbor island school repair functions were transferred to DOE, there would be redundant trade (i.e. one plumber for the DOE, one plumber for DAGS etc.), supervisory, and management staff thus increasing cost and reducing the utilization of the trade crews. It is important that prior to any transfer of responsibilities to the DOE, the overall impact on State facilities and the cost to maintain them be considered.

3. The reconvening of the “interagency working group” composed of the members identified in Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, to evaluate the outcomes of the transfers of resources that have occurred, address issues that currently exist, and develop solutions to resolve these issues will benefit the students and the schools through the working group’s diverse perspectives and knowledge.
4. The timeframe for the interagency working group to submit its final report of findings, recommendations and proposed legislation twenty days prior to the convening of the 2017 legislative session is appropriate and necessary to address the scope of subjects to be addressed.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

**The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Finance**

**Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
February 26, 2015**

**H.B. 1230, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports H.B. 1230, H.D. 1. This measure re-establishes and provides funding for an interagency working group, based on Act 51, to create a comprehensive plan to transfer personnel and functions of the department of accounting and general services related to neighbor island public schools to the department of education.

“Act 51: The Reinventing Education Act of 2004” had at its core the enhancement of the academic achievement of our youth in Hawaii’s public schools. To that end, the legislature recognized that a reduction of the state’s bureaucracy which hampered the effectiveness of the Department of Education was necessary and, thus, created a working group on interagency relations. This interagency working group was responsible to develop a comprehensive plan for transferring certain rights, powers, functions, duties and resources, including positions, from various state departments to the department of education. Act 51 directed that the interagency working group cease to exist on June 30, 2007. However, as stated by the department of education, “issues continue to arise, and adjustments or revisions continue to be necessary”.

The re-convening and funding of the interagency working group is necessary as the state continues its efforts to strengthen public education in Hawaii. The participation of each of the exclusive representatives of the bargaining units of affected employees is extremely important and the HGEA looks forward to being an active participant on the interagency working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 1230, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

**Randy Perreira
Executive Director**

LATE



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**TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 1230, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**House Committee on Finance
Hon. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair**

**Thursday, February 26, 2015, 11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

Honorable Chair Luke and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 300 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of HB 1230, HD 1, relating to the Department of Education.

IMUAlliance supports the reestablishment of an interagency working group to review capital improvements and maintenance of public school facilities, which faced an approximately \$265 million backlog at this time last year. **That said, we encourage you to establish and fund a more comprehensive overview of Act 51.** It has been over 10 years since the enactment of systemic education reforms under Act 51. The progress of Act 51's impact on our state's educational goals is, as any highly effective educator would say, something that should be continuously monitored by all stakeholders, including teachers. Over 50 percent of IMUAlliance's members are teachers. On their behalf, we humbly ask you to create a working group to review instructional time increases, weighted student formula funding, technology-based learning, principal empowerment, strengthening community involvement, lowering class size, and reducing departmental bureaucracy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Executive Director
IMUAlliance