



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

**Date:** 03/02/2015  
**Time:** 09:00 AM  
**Location:** 211  
**Committee:** Senate Ways and Means

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 1346 RELATING TO TEACHERS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Applies the same probationary period requirements of department of education teachers to public charter school teachers, who have not earned tenure within the department of education, upon entry or reentry to the department of education.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports S.B. 1346. The proposed revision allows the Department to align probationary requirements for all incoming teachers. It corrects the existing inequity where a licensed charter school teacher may enter or return to the Department and gain tenure after only one year, whereas licensed Department teachers must serve three years of probation.

The proposed revision also ensures that there is sufficient time for principals to observe and provide assistance and support to probationary teachers before awarding tenure, which ultimately supports the goals of improving student achievement, instructional practices, and overall professionalism.

DAVID IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE  
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII  
**STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION**  
**('AHA KULA HO'ĀMANA)**

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FOR: SB1346 Relating to Teachers  
DATE: Monday, March 2, 2015  
TIME: 9 a.m.  
COMMITTEE(S): Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
ROOM: Conference Room 211  
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director  
State Public Charter School Commission

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Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission ("Commission") appreciates the opportunity to submit these written comments on Senate Bill 1346, "Relating to Teachers," which sets the probationary period for licensed teachers who are not yet tenured in the Department of Education ("Department") and are entering or returning to the Department after employment at a public charter school in accordance with policies and practices determined by the Department, Board of Education, and collective bargaining agreements.

While the Commission does not take a position on this legislation, our understanding from the Department is that this measure is needed to ensure that, under the longer probationary period established under the collective bargaining agreement with the Hawaii State Teachers Association ("HSTA"), a public charter school teacher transferring to a Department school does not enjoy an unfair advantage as to his or her probationary status relative to a teacher who has served for the same period of time in the Department. Assuming that the proposed change would not place an experienced public charter school teacher at an unfair disadvantage as to his or her probationary status in the Department, this would seem appropriate. We have communicated this to HSTA, which represents both DOE and charter school teachers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

**SB1346**

Submitted on: 2/27/2015

Testimony for WAM on Mar 2, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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