



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/05/2026  
Time: 02:00 PM  
Location: 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
Committee: EDN

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB2565, RELATING TO TEACHERS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates funds to the Department of Education to provide monetary awards to educators who are recognized by the legislature, during education week, for their accomplishments, excellence in teaching, leadership, and service.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2565, which appropriates funds to the Department to provide monetary awards to educators recognized by the Legislature for their accomplishments, excellence in teaching, leadership, and service.

The Department respectfully suggests the following change to bill language to provide clarity as to how the monetary award is intended to be distributed.

Amend lines 12-17 to read:

"Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to provide public school educators that are recognized by the legislature, during education week, in demonstrating excellence in teaching, leadership, and service with a one-time monetary award increase of five thousand dollars in their salaries for each the year of recognition, subject to available funds."

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2565.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



MAKALAPUA ALENCASTRE, ED. D.  
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION  
(‘AHA KULA HO‘AMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>  
1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

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FOR: HB 2565 RELATING TO TEACHERS  
DATE: February 5, 2026  
TIME: 2:00 P.M.  
COMMITTEE: Committee on Education  
ROOM: Conference Room 309 & Videoconference  
FROM: Ed H. Noh, Ed. D., Executive Director  
State Public Charter School Commission

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Chair Woodson, Vice Chair La Chica, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to offer testimony that **SUPPORTS THE INTENT of HB 2565** which provides educators recognized by the Legislature during Education Week with a monetary increase of \$5,000 in their salaries for each year of recognition.

The Commission humbly requests that the Committee consider amending this measure by including public charter school teachers.

The Commission supports any initiatives that assist with attracting and retaining high-quality educators as well as elevating and recognizing those educators that provide exemplary service and instruction to our public school students.

The Commission is available to work with this committee, the DOE, and our public charter schools in moving this legislation forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

**HB-2565**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 8:52:32 PM  
Testimony for EDN on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
M. Leilani DeMello	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I KĀKO‘O this bill. Our teachers should be recognized and rewarded for their excellence. All teachers, regular DOE AND charter schools alike.

Mahalo,

M. Leilani DeMello

‘Ōla‘a, Puna, Hawai‘i

**HB-2565**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 10:24:18 PM  
Testimony for EDN on 2/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry Oppose

2565 HB RELATING TO TEACHERS.