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Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Ronald Kouchi, Vice Chair

February 25, 2014

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for SB847 SD1, which authorizes an additional per year bonus for teachers who maintain current board certification and teach at schools in a focus, priority or superintendent's zone under the National Board Certification Incentive Program.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

The Coalition understands that teacher quality is considered to be one of the most influential factors in student achievement. National board certification is rigorous and allows teachers to analyze and improve their practice. We believe it is important to continue to reward teachers who voluntarily undergo this process.

Regarding the additional bonus, we think that the incentive should be greatest for national board certified teachers who are at schools in a focus, priority or superintendent's zone, schools with a high turnover rate, and schools that are hard to fill as determined by the Department.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

Academy 21
 After-School All-Stars Hawaii
 Alliance for Place Based Learning
 *Castle Complex Community Council
 *Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS
 Center for Civic Education
 Coalition for Children with Special Needs
 *Faith Action for Community Equity
 Fresh Leadership LLC
 Girl Scouts Hawaii
 *Good Beginnings Alliance
 Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
 *Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
 Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
 *Hawai'i Charter School Network
 *Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
 *Hawaii State PTSA
 Hawai'i State Student Council
 Hawai'i State Teachers Association
 Hawai'i P-20
 Hawai'i 3Rs
 Head Start Collaboration Office
 It's All About Kids
 *INPEACE
 Joint Venture Education Forum
 Junior Achievement of Hawaii
 *Kaho'omiki
 Kamehameha Schools
 Kanu Hawai'i
 *Kaua'i Ho'okele Council
 Keiki to Career Kaua'i
 Kupu A'e
 *Leaders for the Next Generation
 Learning First
 McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds
 Our Public School
 *Pacific Resources for Education and Learning
 *Parents and Children Together
 *Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program
 Teach for America
 The Learning Coalition
 US PACOM
 University of Hawai'i College of Education
 YMCA of Honolulu
Voting Members () Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*