



Senate Committee on Education
Monday, January 24, 2011
1:15 p.m.

SB 8, Relating to Education.

Dear Chairperson Tokuda and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the University of Hawaii Professional Assembly, we wish to go on the record in support of the passage of SB 8 that grants the Governor the right to appoint members to the Board of Education. We believe that this bill is a better alternative than the measure passed, but vetoed by the Governor, last session. That bill established a special panel, with members to be appointed by those holding various political positions, to review and present the Governor with a list of individuals that he or she would then have to choose from for selection of Board members. Our experience with a similar selection process for selection of the members of the Board of Regents has resulted in many outstanding citizens, who otherwise would have made good Regents, not willing to go through the ordeal. More importantly, since the citizens of our state have approved a Constitutional Amendment giving the Governor the authority to appoint Board of Education members, we believe that the Governor, in order to be accountable to the people, should not be limited in his or her choices through restriction to a list created by a committee, which is politically appointed.

We strongly recommend the passage of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

J.N. Musto, Ph.D.
Executive Director

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
PROFESSIONAL ASSEMBLY

1017 Palm Drive • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1928
Telephone: (808) 593-2157 • Facsimile: (808) 593-2160
Web Page: <http://www.uhpa.org>