Presented by Jim Shon, Director  
Hawaii Educational Policy Center  
January 31, 2013

COMMITTEES: House Higher Education/ House Education  
DATE: January 31, 2013  
TIME: 2 pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 309

RE: HB 719 RELATING TO EDUCATION

POSITION: HEPC supports this bill to build HEPC’s capacity to serve Hawaii’s decision makers.

COMMENTS:

Purpose and Mission
The purpose of the Hawaii Educational Policy Center (HEPC) is to provide objective, data-based information in the form of policy briefs, reports, articles, and forums bearing on public and private education policy and practices at all levels. The target audiences for HEPC publications and events are educators, policymakers, and other education stakeholders in the State of Hawaii.

HEPC conducts, sponsors, commissions, and/or coordinates analytical studies that inform policy discussions. Examples of issues that are addressed include:

- Performance-based assessments
- Teacher Resignations
- State financial support for public education
- Declining enrollments at the University of Hawai’i
- Implementing health education standards
- Readiness of children to succeed in school
- Feasibility of establishing a K-16 student data system
- Middle-level education in Hawai’i
- Characteristics of upper division dropouts at UH Manoa

The HEPC provides the infrastructure to support data-based decision-making and uses data sources such as the U.S. Census, National Center for Educational Statistics, Public Welfare, and the Hawai’i State Department of Education.
HEPC recognizes that the Hawaii Department of Education and the University of Hawaii are among the largest public institutions in our State. Understanding the issues and policy challenges of the DOE and UH are of importance to decision makers, researchers, and stakeholders throughout the community.

HEPC is requesting capacity funding of $150,000 per year, which will allow HEPC to ramp up its ability to retain expert research and staff to assist policy makers in Hawaii. Currently, HEPC is benefitting from some capacity support through the UH College of Education. However, this is not sustainable in the long run, and is not enough to add staff.

HEPC has produced reports requested by the Legislature in the past and looks forward to exploring opportunities to be of service in the near future.

Members of the HEPC Senior Advisory Group are the following:

HEPC Senior Advisory Group

Kathleen Berg, Director, Curriculum Research & Development Group
Terance Bigalke, Director, East West Center Education Program, East West Center
Susan Chandler, Director, College of Social Sciences Public Policy Center, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Joan Husted, former Executive Director, Hawaii State Teachers Association
Meda Chesney Lind, Professor, Women's Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Warren Nishimoto, Director, Center for Oral History, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Edward J. Shultz, Dean, School of Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Liam Skilling, Director of the Part-Time JD Program and Academic Assistance, Lecturer in Law, University of Hawaii at Manoa, William S. Richardson School of Law
Katherine Tibbetts, Principal Research Associate, Kamehameha Schools
Charles Toguchi, former Hawaii Superintendent of Education
Donald Young, Dean, College of Education, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Our newly upgraded Web site: https://coe.hawaii.edu//

Among the major reports HEPC and its affiliated researchers have conducted (available on its web site) are:

DATE

A Policy History of Standards-based Education Reform in Hawaii; May 13, 2009
June 1, 2009
Standards-based Education Reform in the United States since “A Nation at Risk”;

Report To The Legislature On Senate Concurrent Resolution 118 Sd1 Hd1 – Improving The Community’s Understanding Of The Department Of Education’s Programs And School Expenses Including A Comparison With Other States On Adequacy Of Funds;

Interim Report to the Legislature on Senate Concurrent Resolution 56 S.D. 1 Requesting the HEPC to Report on the Retention and Change in Assignment of Teachers within the Department of Education;

Middle Level Grade Configuration: Impact on Hawai’i’s Schools;

Hawaii Department of Education Survey on Education for Military Families in Hawaii.

Reinventing Education (Act 51) Reports

- Implementing the Reinventing Education Act of 2004, Sep 2004
- Single School Calendar for Hawaii’s Public School, Oct 2004
- Changes in Education Management, Jan 2005
- Act 51 Requires Change, Dec 2004
- Weighted Student Formula, Feb 2005
- Principal Discretionary Budget Control, Mar 2005
- Does the Principal as CEO Analogy Work?, Mar 2005