



Outlook

[EXTERNAL] testimony NBI 25-32

From Hope Pualani McKeen <[REDACTED]>

Date Wed 9/9/2026 3:53 PM

To HTSB <htsb@hawaii.gov>

 1 attachment (94 KB)

HTSB NBI-25-32 Revised.pdf;

Please find my testimony attached in support of this NBI.

Na'u nō

Hope Pualani McKeen

Lili'u-"never cease to act because you fear you may fail"

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Numbers Make Sense

Life is a Performance task

Conquering Math Phobias

TO: Chair and Members of the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB)

FROM: Hope Pualani McKeen

DATE: 09/08/2026

SUBJECT: Testimony in Strong Support of **NBI 25-32 (Revised)** – *Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Review Process*

Aloha Chair and Members of the Board,

I am writing in strong support of NBI 25-32 (Revised) to establish a temporary workgroup to review and improve the State Approved Teacher Education Program (SATEP) review process.

I strongly support this measure because of its explicit focus on Kaiapuni and Hawaiian-medium educator preparation pathways.

While I share HTSB's commitment to maintaining rigorous standards for all educators, the current program review process presents unique challenges for Hawaiian-medium and culture-based education programs.

NBI 25-32 (Revised) directly addresses these critical issues by charging the workgroup to:

- Evaluate and refine review processes to ensure they acknowledge the linguistic, cultural, and community contexts of Hawaiian language-medium education.
- Address review delays and administrative burdens that impede our ability to place qualified Kaiapuni educators into high-need classrooms across Hawai'i.
- Examine reviewer qualifications, cultural competency, and subject-matter expertise to ensure review teams understand Hawaiian-medium education.
- Guarantee key seats on the 13-member workgroup for Hawaiian-medium educator preparation programs, the Office of Hawaiian Education, Kaiapuni educators, and Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA).

Establishing this workgroup will ensure our program review system maintains high standards while remaining equitable, responsive, and grounded in the unique needs of Hawai'i's students and Hawaiian-medium communities.

I urge the Board to approve NBI 25-32 (Revised). Thank you for your time, leadership, and commitment to our educators.

Mahalo,



Hope Pualani McKeen

[EXTERNAL] Testimony - NBI 25-32

From Eshelman, Andrea <[REDACTED]>

Date Wed 9/9/2026 5:13 PM

To HTSB <htsb@hawaii.gov>

 1 attachment (304 KB)

HSTA Testimony NBI25 32 HTSB 2026.09.11.pdf;

Please see the attached testimony for the following meetings

September 11, 11:00 AM – Teacher Education Committee Meeting

September 11, 1: 00 PM - General Business Meeting

NBI 25-32 Revised- Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Review Process

Position: Strong Support

Andrea Eshelman (she/her)

Executive Director

Hawai'i State Teachers Association

Office: 808-833-2711

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www.hsta.org

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Executive Director

TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAI'I TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

Item: New Business Item 25-32 Revised – Establishment of a Program Review Process Review Workgroup

Position: Strong Support

Meeting: September 11, 2026, Teacher Education Committee Meeting & General Business Meeting

Submitter: Andrea Eshelman, Executive Director - Hawai'i State Teachers Association

Dear members of the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association (HSTA) is in **strong support** of New Business Item 25-32 Revised, establishing a Program Review Process Review Workgroup to conduct a comprehensive review of the state's educator preparation program review and approval processes.

HSTA appreciates the recognition that concerns raised by educator preparation programs, faculty, teachers, administrators, and other stakeholders warrant a thorough examination of the current system. Recent testimony has highlighted recurring concerns regarding timeliness, transparency, consistency, stakeholder engagement, and the impact of program review requirements on teacher preparation efforts across the state.

At a time when Hawai'i continues to face significant teacher shortages, it is important that program review processes maintain high standards while also being clear, predictable, and responsive to workforce needs. Delays, inconsistent expectations, and unnecessary administrative burdens can create challenges for educator preparation programs and ultimately affect the pipeline of qualified teachers entering our schools.

HSTA is particularly encouraged by the workgroup's focus on examining impacts on high-need areas such as special education, rural and neighbor-island communities, and Kaiapuni education. We also support the inclusion of diverse stakeholders, including educator preparation programs, practitioners, the Department of Education, Kaiapuni representatives, and HSTA, to ensure recommendations are informed by those most directly affected.

This workgroup presents an important opportunity to strengthen the integrity, transparency, and effectiveness of the program review process while supporting Hawai'i's efforts to recruit and retain qualified educators.

For these reasons, HSTA respectfully urges the members of the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board to approve New Business Item 25-32 Revised.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.



Outlook

[EXTERNAL] Testimony

From Eomailani Kukahiko <eomai@hawaii.edu>

Date Thu 9/10/2026 10:32 AM

To HTSB <htsb@hawaii.gov>

TO: Hawaii Teacher Standards Board Members
Teacher Education Committee Members
General Business Meeting Members
htsb@hawaii.gov

FROM: Eōmailani Kukahiko
Curriculum Studies, University of Hawai'i

SUBJECT: Testimony in Strong Support - **NBI 25-32 Revised**, Establish
Committee to Strengthen Program Review Process

Aloha mai e nā hoa papa alaka'i ana kumu,

My name is Eōmailani Kukahiko and I am a Specialist in Kaiapuni and Hawaiian Education at the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i. I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** of *establishing a committee to strengthen the HTSB's program review process*.

The establishment of a committee that represents the different stakeholders of the state ensures that decisions made regarding the review process are those of the collective who are most affected.

Having gone through the process of getting revisions for one of our programs, I have experienced firsthand the daunting nature of program modifications but I know that the larger educational community is being negatively impacted when things don't work smoothly to get quality programs approved with expedience.

The establishment of a committee may help with setting timelines and expectations for the review process (e.g., new programs, add-a-field, minor program modification, major program modification, etc.) to prevent delayed program approvals for months to years.

This revision, NBI 25-32 Revised, acknowledges the challenges and concerns brought before the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board through written and oral testimonies over the past several years and proposes a plan to identify and develop solutions to address the issues raised.

In conclusion, I urge the Committee to **approve NBI 25-32 Revised**. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in **strong support**.



Eōmailani K. Kukahiko, Ph.D.

Laekahi Ho'omohala Ha'awina & Ki'ina A'o

Ke Kula Ho'ona'auao

Ke Kulanui o Hawai'i ma Mānoa

La'ialoha University Annex 2

[Advising Scheduling Link](#)

Ako 'ē ka hale a pa'a, a i ke komo 'ana mai o ka ho'oilo, 'a'ole e kulu i ka ua o Hilinehu.