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(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

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FOR: HB 1782 Relating to Education
DATE: Thursday, February 04, 2016
TIME: 8:30 A.M.
COMMITTEE(S): House Committee on Human Services
ROOM: Conference Room 329
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Testimony with comments only on HB 1782

Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission appreciates the opportunity to submit these comments regarding Senate Bill 2232, "Relating to Education." It appears that this proposal is intended to apply specifically to the Department of Education (DOE) schools, as the content of the proposed required instruction is to be left to the discretion of the Board of Education, subject to certain requirements. However, when proposed legislation addresses "public schools," this generally is understood to include public charter schools.

If the proposed requirements are intended to apply DOE schools only, we respectfully request that the bill be amended to change the references to "public schools" to say "department schools." If the intent is that they also apply to charter schools, we would respectfully request that the bill be amended to provided that the content of the proposed required instruction be left to the discretion of each charter school's governing board, subject to the requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.